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EVERYBODY'S GOT A NOVEL IN THEM, RIGHT? THESE FIVE TIPS WILL HELP YOU GET IN ON THE ELECTRONIC-BOOK EXPLOSION PAGE 8

OTTAWA metro®

Monday, December 17, 2012

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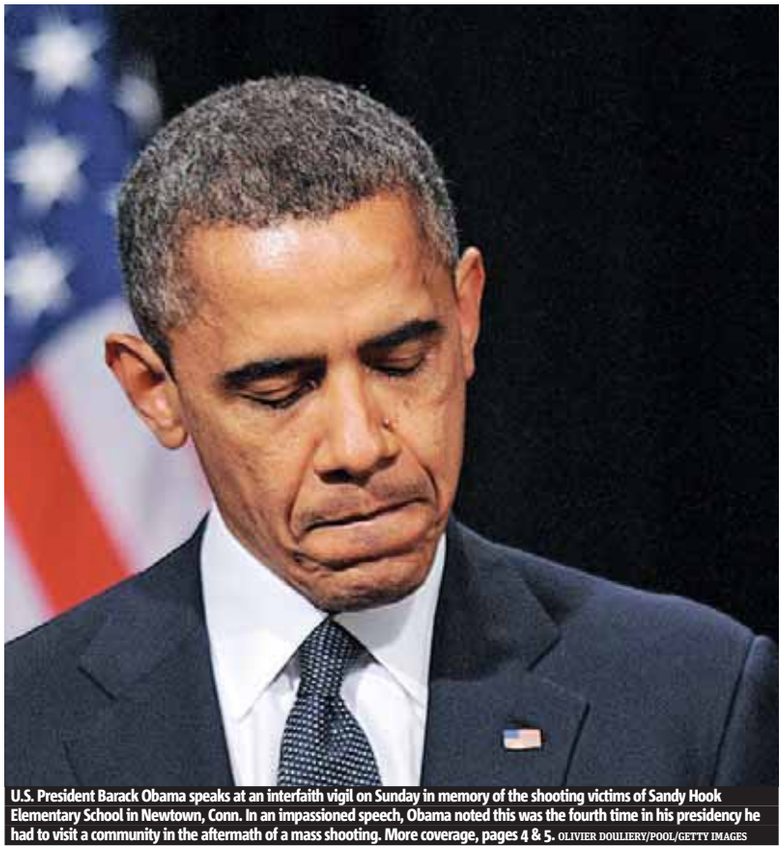
'These tragedies must end'



U.S. President Barack Obama speaks at an interfaith vigil on Sunday in memory of the shooting victims of Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn. In an impassioned speech, Obama noted this was the fourth time in his presidency he had to visit a community in the aftermath of a mass shooting. More coverage, pages 4 & 5. OLIVIER DOULIERY/POOL/GETTY IMAGES

Newtown, Conn.
Barack Obama pays tribute to the victims of Friday's mass shooting at Sunday vigil

A mournful President Barack Obama said Sunday that the United States is failing to keep its children safe, pledging that change must come after an elementary-school massacre left 20 children dead.

"What choice do we have?" Obama said. "Are we really prepared to say that we're powerless in the face of such carnage, that the politics are too hard?"

In a vigil for the fallen, in a moment of grief that spread around the world, Obama conceded that none of his words would match the sorrow. But he declared to the community of Newtown, site of the second-deadliest school shooting in U.S. history: "You are not alone."

"We can't tolerate this any more," he said. "These tragedies must end. And to end them, we must change."

For Obama, ending his fourth year in office, it was another sorrowful visit to another community in disbelief. The massacre on Friday of 26 children and adults at Sandy Hook Elementary elicited horror around the world, soul-searching in the United States, fresh political debate about gun control and questions about the incomprehensible — what drove the suspect to act.

Privately, Obama told Connecticut Gov. Dannel Malloy that Friday was the most difficult day of his presidency.

Authorities said Sunday that the gunman in the shooting rampage was carrying an arsenal of hundreds of rounds of especially deadly ammunition — enough to kill just about every student in the school if given enough time, raising the chilling possibility that the bloodbath could have been far worse.

Adam Lanza shot himself in the head just as he heard police drawing near to the classroom where he was slaughtering helpless children, but he had more ammunition at the ready in the form of multiple, high-capacity clips each capable of holding 30 bullets.

The disclosure sent shudders throughout this picturesque community in the northeastern U.S. as grieving families sought to comfort each other during church services devoted to impossible questions like that of a six-year-old girl who asked her mother: "The little children, are they with the angels?"

Many of Newtown's 27,000 people wondered whether life could ever return to normal. Officials couldn't say whether Sandy Hook Elementary School would ever reopen. The school district was considering sending surviving students to an empty school in nearby Monroe. But for many parents, it was much too soon to contemplate resuming school-day routines.

"We're just now getting ready to talk to our son about who was killed," said Robert Licata, the father of a boy who was at the school during the shooting but escaped harm. "He's not even there yet."

"I feel like we have to get back to normal, but I don't know if there is normal anymore," said Kim Camputo, mother of two children, ages five and 10, who attend a different school. "I'll definitely be dropping them off and picking them up myself for a while."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A child's question

"The little children, are they with the angels?"

A six-year-old Newtown girl to her mother, in the aftermath of the carnage

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Head-to-head

Grits leadership hopefuls to debate in Ottawa

The seven candidates vying for the leadership of Ontario's Liberal Party will hold a debate in Ottawa on Tuesday. The event will be held at Carleton University's River Theatre Building from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Glen Murray, Sandra Pupatello, Eric Hoskins, Charles Sousa, Harinder Takhar, Kathleen Wynee, and Gerard Kennedy are running to replace outgoing Premier Dalton McGuinty.

ALEX BOUTILIER/METRO

OC Transpo

Man who made threats arrested

Some bus riders said he had a gun, but it turns out a man who accosted a bus driver at Billings Bridge Thursday afternoon only made verbal threats.

Special constables were dispatched to the Billings Bridge transit station after a bus operator reported the man uttering threats at 4:48 p.m., said James Babe, manager of Transit Safety and Enforcement Services. A search of the man did not turn up a firearm, Babe said.

GRAHAM LANKTREE/METRO

Confederation Line

Council to give final LRT approval

City councillors will take their final vote on the future of the $2.13-billion light-rail deal on Wednesday. It's expected council will unanimously pass the deal, which would see the Rideau Transit Group build the Confederation Line. Wednesday's vote is the final step before construction goes ahead in 2013.

ALEX BOUTILIER/METRO

Deck the halls with kids of Christmas

Young members of the Orkidstra KidSingers and Kiddlywinks belt out Jingle Bells while the National Arts Centre Orchestra plays in the NAC to a packed crowd Sunday. The free concert was staged as a thank you to donors and supporters who have donated to the NACO's fundraising drives for the Snowsuit Fund and the Ottawa Food Bank throughout December. Volunteers said last year's drive raised more than $30,000. SEAN MCKIBBON/METRO

Plasco, city finalize waste-disposal deal

Energy generation.
Majority of garbage will be converted into gas via experimental process

ALEX BOUTILIER
alex.boutilier@metronews.ca

Over a full year after originally announcing a deal was forthcoming, Ottawa City Hall and Plasco Energy Group have agreed on the terms.

Under the terms of the 20-year deal, the city will truck 109,500 tonnes of garbage annually to be run through Plasco's experimental "plasma gasification" process, converting the waste to gas used for energy generation.

That's the bulk of the 130,000 tonnes Plasco intends to process per year. The city also has the right of first refusal to provide the additional 20,500 tonnes. The deal includes the option of four five-year extensions for the city.

The city will pay the company $83.25 per tonne processed.

"The finalization of the commercial agreement represents an important milestone in the city's ongoing partnership with Plasco Energy Group Inc.," said city manager Kent Kirkpatrick in a press release.

The city announced the deal in a press release Saturday morning after speculation a deal would be reached on Friday. It is not known what eleventh-hour snag delayed the contract agreement for a day.

Coun. Maria McRae, the chair of Ottawa's environment committee and a supporter of the Plasco deal, told reporters in November that a deal was imminent. In the release, she said she looks forward to Plasco building a commercial facility at 3704 Moodie Dr.

"The city took rigorous steps to protect the interest of taxpayers when negotiating this contract," McRae said in the release. She could not be reached for an interview on Sunday.

A report on the deal will come forward to the city's environment committee in early 2013. Council will have final approval on the contract in the New Year.

Trash cash

$83.25

Plasco will receive $83.25 from the city per tonne of garbage processed.

School massacre. Leftover ammo suggests an even deadlier plan: Police

The gunman in the Connecticut shooting rampage was carrying an arsenal of hundreds of rounds of especially deadly ammunition — enough to kill just about every student in the school if given enough time, authorities said Sunday, raising the chilling possibility that the bloodbath could have been far worse.

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The disclosure on Sunday sent shudders throughout this picturesque community in the northeastern U.S., as grieving families sought to comfort each other during church services devoted to impossible questions, like that of a six-year-old girl who asked her mother: "The little children, are they with the angels?"

With so much grieving left to do, many of Newtown's 27,000 people wondered whether life could ever return to normal. And as the work week was set to begin, parents weighed whether to send their own children back to school.

Adam Lanza posing for a photo that appeared in the Newtown High School yearbook. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Amid the confusion and sorrow, stories of heroism emerged, including an account of the principal Dawn Hochsprung, 47, and the school psychologist, Mary Sherlach, 56, rushing toward Lanza in an attempt to stop him. Both died.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

No one harmed

Churchgoers flee after phone threat

Worshippers hurriedly left St. Rose of Lima Church Sunday when someone phoned in a threat.

The threat interrupted a crowded mass and touched off a large police response days after the worst massacre of school-age children in U.S. history.

Gunman Adam Lanza, his mother and eight of the child victims attended St. Rose of Lima.

The church hosted overflow crowds at all three morning masses Sunday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

More online

Read and see more about the Newton, Connecticut, school shooting at metronews.ca, including:

- Portraits of shooting victims show lives at their very start, ended in a hail of gunfire
- Gunman's father speaks of sympathy, heartbreak
- Many employees at Connecticut school being hailed as heroes in wake of deadly shooting

U.S. Democrats call for gun restrictions

Arms control. Advocates say the latest shooting in Connecticut could be a tipping point to changing the debate dramatically

Cheryl Girardi, of Middletown, Conn., kneels beside 26 teddy bears, each representing a victim of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting, at a sidewalk memorial on Sunday in Newtown, Conn. A gunman walked into the elementary school in Newtown on Friday and opened fire, killing 26 people. DAVID GOLDMAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Democratic lawmakers said Sunday that military-style assault weapons should be banned and that a national commission should be established to examine mass shootings in the United States.

The proposals were among the first to come from Congress in the wake of Friday's massacre at a school in Newtown, Conn. Gun rights activists remained largely quiet on the issue; all but one declining to appear on the Sunday talk shows. Meanwhile, Democrats vowed action and said it was time to hear from voters — not gun lobbyists — on how to prevent the next shooting.

The time for "saying that we can't talk about the policy implications of tragedies like this is over," said Rep. Chris Murphy, a Connecticut Democrat who won a Senate seat in the November elections.

President Barack Obama and Senate Democrats haven't pushed for new gun control measures since taking power in the 2008 elections. Outspoken advocates for stricter laws, including Sen. Dianne Feinstein, say that's because of the powerful sway of the National Rifle Association, the gun owners' lobbying group.

But advocates also say the latest shooting is a tipping point that could change the dynamic of the debate dramatically. Feinstein said she will propose legislation next year that would ban big ammo clips, drums and strips of more than 10 bullets.

"It can be done," she said Sunday of reviving a 10-year ban on assault weapons that expired in 2004.

New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg said Obama could use executive powers to enforce existing gun laws, as well as throw his weight behind legislation like Feinstein's.

"It's time for the president, I think, to stand up and lead and tell this country what we should do — not go to Congress and say, 'What do you guys want to do?'" Bloomberg said.

Sen. Joe Lieberman, an independent former Democrat from Connecticut who is retiring, supports such a ban on assault weapons but said there should also be a national commission to scrutinize gun laws and loopholes as well as the U.S. mental health system and the role that violent video games and movies might play in shootings. Democratic Sen. Dick Durbin said he would support such a panel, adding that it was time for a "national discussion" that included school safety.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Independent commissions

Congress has frequently turned to independent bipartisan commissions to try to solve America's worst problems, including the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, the Iraq war and the failing economy. But ultimately, lawmakers are often reluctant to act on the recommendations of outsiders, especially if they think it will cost them support in their home states.

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Victim of school massacre mourned in Winnipeg

Ana Marquez-Greene, right, poses with her family. The six-year-old was shot and killed Friday in Newtown, Conn. FACEBOOK.COM

Close to home. Community offers its love and support to family of Connecticut shooting victim

ELISHA DACEY
Metro in Winnipeg

Members of a Winnipeg church and school are mourning a six-year-old girl, described as bright and talented, who died in a horrific school shooting in the U.S. on Friday.

Ana Marquez-Greene was one of the 20 children murdered in Newtown, Conn., in a rampage that left 28 dead, including the shooter and his mother. Ana, who moved back to Connecticut with her family after a few years in Winnipeg, was the daughter of University of Manitoba professor Jimmy Greene, an accomplished saxophone player.

Greene issued a statement via his Facebook page this weekend.

"Thank you for all of your prayers and kind words of support," reads the posting that was put up Saturday.

"As we work through this nightmare, we're reminded how much we're loved and supported on this earth and by our Father in heaven. As much as she's needed here and missed by her mother, brother and me, Ana beat us all to paradise. I love you sweetie girl."

Ana attended Linden Christian School while she lived in Winnipeg with her parents and her brother, Isaiah. Isaiah was also at the school during the shooting but escaped unharmed.

"As a community, let's uphold James, Nelba and their son Isaiah, as well as the many individuals impacted by this tragedy, in prayer," said Linden Christian principal Rob Charach.

WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

Spy budget. Canadian army trying to maintain intelligence capabilities

The Canadian army is trying to hold on to its intelligence-gathering capability and its ability to disrupt spying in the face of budget strain, say internal National Defence documents.

A briefing note prepared for the country's top soldier shows the army has pushed the military's chief of intelligence to permanently staff "high-readiness" intelligence positions within brigades and all-source intelligence centres that could be called upon to deploy overseas.

The documents also show the army is anxious to protect its network of human sources and operatives, known as HUMINT, and to better resource its counter-intelligence abilities.

With the end of the war in Afghanistan and a shrinking defence budget, there is a fear those disciplines could face "degradation."

During an appearance recently before the Senate security and defence committee, army commander Lt.-Gen. Peter Devlin said he's invested 1,500 regular force positions in "enablers" such as intelligence, counter-improvised explosive device research, helicopters and unmanned aerial vehicles, among other things.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Vatican

Pope offers his prayers to families

Pope Benedict XVI told pilgrims and tourists in St. Peter's Square on Sunday that he is praying for the families of the 20 children and six adults who were killed during a shooting rampage at a U.S. school.

Benedict said he was "deeply saddened by Friday's senseless violence."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Missing women inquiry

Oppal to release Pickton report

The closest thing Marilyn Renter has ever had to a trial for her step-daughter's death is the inquiry into the failures that allowed Robert Pickton to target sex workers from Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.

On Monday, Renter will find out whether her long wait for justice has been answered as Commissioner Wally Oppal releases a report outlining why Pickton wasn't caught sooner and what should be done to prevent similar failures in the future.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Possible contamination

Frozen burger recall expanded

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is expanding a nationwide recall of frozen beef burgers that may be contaminated with E. coli bacteria. The public is now warned not to consume Cardinal Select brand Prime Rib Beef Burgers sold in 1.13 kilogram packages with a best before date of July 31, 2013.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Student safety

School board reassures parents

A Halifax school board is reaching out to parents in the wake of the shooting in Newtown, Conn. "We want to reassure parents that we do have safety procedures in place," Doug Hadley, spokesperson for the school board, said on Sunday.

"The tragedy that happened in Connecticut is an unfortunate reminder that we'll have to be vigilant, and we have to do everything we can to ensure our students are safe."

HALEY RYAN/METRO IN HALIFAX

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Groups in Egypt call for redo of referendum's first phase

Alleged violations. Ruling party accused of tampering with polling stations

Egyptian rights groups called Sunday for a repeat of the first round of the constitutional referendum, alleging the vote was marred by widespread violations.

Islamists who back the disputed charter claimed they were in the lead with a majority of "yes" votes, though official results have not been announced.

Representatives of seven rights groups charged that there was insufficient supervision by judges in Saturday's vote in 10 of Egypt's 27 provinces and independent monitors were prevented from witnessing vote counts.

The representatives told a news conference that they had reports of individuals falsely identifying themselves as judges, of women prevented from voting and that members of Islamist President Mohammed Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood were allowed inside polling stations. They also complained that some polling centres closed earlier than scheduled and that Christians were denied entry to polling stations.

The vote is the latest stage in a nearly two-year struggle over Egypt's identity since the ouster of longtime leader Hosni Mubarak in a popular uprising. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Security

120,000

The number of army troops that were deployed to help police protect polling stations and state institutions

A man walks near barbed wire set up by protesters in Tahrir Square in Cairo on Sunday. Key Egyptian rights groups called for another vote of the first round of the constitutional referendum. AMR NABIL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kim Jong Il mourned after successful launch

North Korea parlayed the success of last week's rocket launch to glorify leader Kim Jong Un and his late father on Sunday, the eve of the first anniversary of his death.

The successful firing of the rocket on Wednesday — ostensibly to place a satellite in space — was a clear sign that Kim will continue his father Kim Jong Il's militaristic hardline policies despite international condemnation.

The West sees the rocket as a thinly disguised way of carrying out UN-banned tests of long-range missile technology, which it says not only threatens regional stability but is also a waste of resources when millions of North Koreans have little to eat in the famine-beset country crying out for economic reforms.

It is also feared that after the rocket launch, Pyongyang will press ahead with a nuclear test to build a warhead small enough to be carried by a long-range missile. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Former leader Kim Jong Il. NG HAN GUAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Civil war. Iran proposes plans to end Syrian bloodshed, backs Assad

Iran is backing presidential elections in Syria as part of a six-point plan outlined Sunday to halt the 21-month civil war in Tehran's main Middle East ally.

The plan, described by state media and Iranian news agencies, also calls for efforts to halt the flow of weapons into Syria and to hold talks that include the government of Syrian president Bashar Assad. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Syrian President Bashar Assad THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Landslide victory

Right-wing party wins big in Japanese election

Japan's conservative Liberal Democratic Party returned to power in a landslide election victory Sunday after three years in opposition, according to unofficial results, signalling a rightward shift in the government that could further heighten tensions with China, a key economic partner as well as rival. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Headache

Clinton suffers a concussion

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton sustained a concussion last week after becoming extremely dehydrated and fainting while suffering from a stomach virus, the State Department said.

The doctors did not determine it to be a "severe" concussion, the official said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Venezuela

Chavez recovers as country goes to polls

Venezuelans were choosing governors and state lawmakers on Sunday in elections seen as a key test of whether President Hugo Chavez's movement can endure if the socialist leader leaves the political stage.

The vote was the first time in Chavez's nearly 14-year-old presidency that he has been unable to actively campaign. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Ontario man's been ready for impending disaster for half a century

Bruce Beach shows off the living quarters in his underground bunker in Horning's Mills, Ont. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bunker. Whether for the Cuban missile crisis, Y2K or a nuclear catastrophe, Bruce Beach stayed prepared

Don't talk to Bruce Beach about doomsday. He's been preparing for impending disaster for a half-century and has seen apocalyptic agitation come and go, like so many fads.

So forgive him for not panicking over the end of the Mayan calendar on Dec. 21, this coming Friday.

The 78-year-old former high school teacher, who has a huge nuclear bunker, built his first shelter for the Cuban missile crisis in the 1960s.

He was prepared to go underground for the Y2K crisis, amid widespread concern that computer glitches might bring down airplanes in 2000. He received lots of calls from people seeking shelter during the 1982 Falklands War.

But his busiest day was Sept. 11, 2001, when his website was bombarded with 85,000 hits within three hours.

People regularly drop in to seek refuge in the shelter he built in the 1980s, named the Ark Two, which is composed of 42 buried school buses.

The labyrinth, with its kitchens, showers and separate bunk rooms for children and adults, is about 90 kilometres northwest of Toronto, in Horning's Mills.

"People have been in a panic because someone has prophesized the end of the world this particular week or whatever," Beach said.

"They call us up just to make sure we have space in the shelter and I tell them, 'For sure.'" Beach's main concern has always been the threat of nuclear attacks, which he fears are even closer than ever because of Middle East conflicts or Iran.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Windsor

Cops charge motorist stopped by citizens

A number of motorists in Windsor corralled a suspected drunk driver until police arrived.

Police say they received calls Saturday night about a vehicle swerving all over the road with no headlights. When the cops arrived, they spotted a jeep surrounded by four or five cars, preventing the vehicle from travelling anywhere.

Police say a 41-year-old Windsor man blew three times over the legal blood-alcohol limit. He was arrested for impaired driving.

The vehicle was impounded for seven days and the man's licence suspended for 90 days.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

BBC Sports awards. Kate attends first function since hospitalization

The pregnant Duchess of Cambridge made her first public appearance Sunday night since her hospitalization for acute morning sickness.

The former Kate Middleton presented awards at the BBC Sports Personality of the Year prizes, which were broadcast throughout Britain. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Duchess of Cambridge presents awards Sunday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ikea monkey. Darwin's owner files lawsuit for return of her pet

The owner of Darwin, the monkey in a faux shearling coat who almost wandered into a north Toronto Ikea store, has filed a lawsuit to get her pet back.

Toronto Animal Services captured Darwin last Sunday and transferred him to a primate sanctuary in Sunderland. Yasmin Nakhuda's lawsuit names the sanctuary and alleges they have "unlawfully detained" the monkey.

The suit also claims that officials only had the right to issue a ticket, not to seize the animal. "The bylaw does not have any provisions that allow the officer to withhold returning the pet to the owner," said Nakhuda's lawyer, Theodore Charney.

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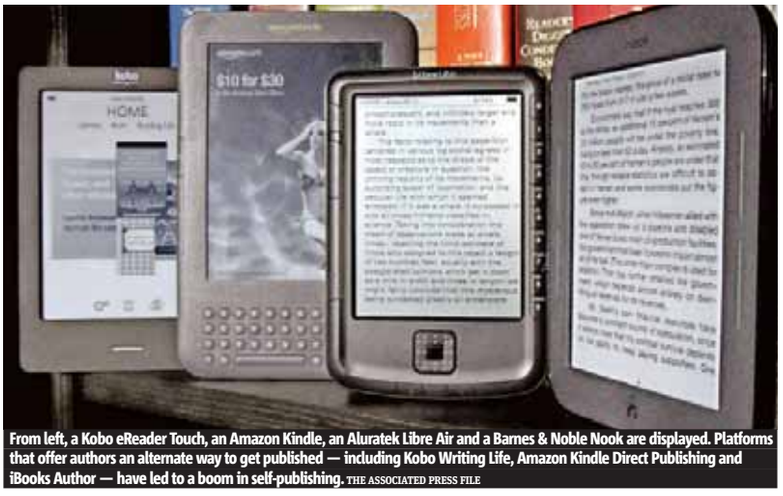
Protesting the privatization of health care

A man holds a dummy depicting a health worker on Sunday during a demonstration in Madrid against cuts to public health care and the privatization of medical centres and hospitals. In Madrid, doctors have already staged 16 days of strikes and health workers' unions are calling for a third 48-hour strike on Dec. 19 and 20. Around 4,000 operations have been suspended in the city since the medical strikes started. PABLO BLAZQUEZ DOMINGUEZ/GETTY IMAGES

Avoiding the pitfalls of ebook self-publishing

Going it alone. Here are five tips to help you get in on the ebook explosion in 2013



From left, a Kobo eReader Touch, an Amazon Kindle, an Aluratek Libre Air and a Barnes & Noble Nook are displayed. Platforms that offer authors an alternate way to get published — including Kobo Writing Life, Amazon Kindle Direct Publishing and iBooks Author — have led to a boom in self-publishing. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

In 2012, Douglas & McIntyre filed for bankruptcy protection, Random House of Canada become the sole owner of McClelland & Stewart, and Penguin and Random House planned to merge.

It's perhaps no surprise that the year also saw an explosion in online self-publishing, with a wealth of platforms — including Kobo Writing Life, Amazon Kindle Direct Publishing and iBooks Author — offering authors an alternate avenue.

"We're actually hearing from a lot of different types of authors, some brand new and some successful ... that have had traditional contracts that are just using self-publishing to experiment with new stuff or put books out that they wanted to do on a different cycle than their traditional publishers were," says Libby Johnson McKee, director of Kindle Direct Publishing.

If you have dreams of being a self-publishing sensation in 2013, here are tips on how to stand out in an increasingly crowded market:

1 The moment you start writing the book, begin building your marketing platform.

"The hardest thing about self-publishing is marketing, not writing, and people find this out too late," says California-based author Guy Kawasaki, who has self-published two books and explains how to do so in the newly released APE: Author, Publisher, Entrepreneur — How to Publish Your Book.

Kawasaki recommends spending two to three hours a day on writing, and one hour a day building a marketing platform on social media sites such as Google Plus, Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.

2 It sounds simple, but write a great book (and know your audience).

"Bad books just don't sell," says Johnson McKee. "And if you write a great book and really work hard on getting your message right, the craft of writing is still the thing that wins the day."

Browse blogs of authors in the same genre and understand what fans like to read.

3 Once the book is written, start crowdsourcing. Get fans, friends, colleagues and others to copy edit or review the book.

"Do this immediately before it goes on sale, so that as soon as it goes on sale you have a bunch of great reviews for the book," says Kawasaki (he sent APE in full format to about 1,000 people before he self-published it, and just three days after it went on sale it had about 135 online reviews).

"Proofreading and editing, though, is a skill and it's something that, just because you write, you might not be able to be the best editor," cautions Johnson McKee. "So if you can find somebody who has that skill and it actually is pretty affordable ... I would recommend trying to do that."

Quoted

"(Authors) finish their book and they think: 'Oh, I'll put it on Amazon and ,boom, people will start buying it,' and they will find that is absolutely not true."

Author Guy Kawasaki, who has written a book on self-publishing

4 Lure in readers by putting your work on various sites and devices. And create catchy metadata, which includes the cover, title, description, biography, and price.

"People judge a book by its cover — they do — so I would strongly recommend that authors consider using a professional cover designer and investing the time and effort in that," says Mark Lefebvre, director of self-publishing and author relations at Kobo. As with an ebook's text, the cover can also be changed once it's out in digital format.

5 Write another great book as soon as possible. Lefebvre notes that passionate and dedicated readers will whip through a book and immediately check to see if authors have written anything else.

This rule is particularly important for genre writers, adds Johnson McKee. "Those types of readers are voracious," she says. "I heard some statistic that romance readers can read 10 books a week, and those are people who are just waiting for the next book to come out."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

U.S. economy

Economic data, fiscal cliff colour year-end trading

Talks aimed at avoiding the so-called fiscal cliff in the U.S. will keep casting a shadow over trading this week as markets begin to wind down for the holidays.

But traders will have key economic data to serve as a possible distraction, including the latest reading on Canadian economic growth and retail sales. And in the U.S., investors will look to see if the strong run-up in housing starts carried on into November.

Going over the cliff involves the automatic imposition of hundreds of billions of dollars in spending cuts and tax increases that could put the U.S. economy back into recession.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Can Tory-style lingo change NDP's fiscal reputation?

Tom Mulcair boasts that he often sounds more like a conservative than Prime Minister Stephen Harper. It may seem an odd thing for the leader of a social-democratic party to brag about. But for the NDP leader, it's part of his mission to prove to Canadians that New Democrats aren't the wild-eyed, reckless taxers and spenders of lore.

Indeed, he maintains that's a more apt description of Harper's Conservatives, whom he accuses of racking up a huge environmental, economic and social debt that future generations will have to pay off.

"What's a paradox ... is that these are essentially conservative themes that I'm evoking in the sense that it would be very conservative to say, 'Don't look for a handout, be self-reliant, pull yourself up by your bootstraps,' all that sort of stuff," Mulcair said. "But what the Conservatives are doing is living off the credit card of our grandchildren ... and I think that's wrong."

Mulcair still emphasizes traditional NDP issues: sustainable development and the need to reduce social inequalities. But he's framing them in conservative language, essentially arguing that intergenerational equity requires the current generation to carry its own weight.

Quoted

"What's a paradox ... is that these are essentially conservative themes that I'm evoking."

Federal NDP Leader Tom Mulcair

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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LRT, PRESTO AND YOUR MONEY

URBAN COMPASS
Steve Collins
ottawa@metronews.ca

At the unveiling of OC Transpo's planned $2.13-billion Confederation Line, Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty opened his remarks by observing that "Christmas is not too far away."

Any resemblance between the premier, with his $600-million sack of provincial LRT cash, and Santa are of course entirely coincidental, and no such comparison was either made or implied. Sometimes, though, it seems our politicos make no special efforts to dispel any cases of mistaken identity.

Liberal dignitaries, including the premier, cabinet minister (and ex-mayor) Bob Chiarelli, Mayor (and ex-cabinet minister) Jim Watson, rather outnumbered the Tories, and while no party logos were displayed, the backdrops erected for the occasion were colour-coded a partisan (or perhaps seasonally festive) red.

It fell to the odd man out on the podium, the Conservative MP for Ottawa–Orleans, Royal Galipeau, to remind us not only of the feds' $600-million contribution, but, just as usefully, that "it's not really the government's money. It's the people's money."

This is always worth saying, and reassuring to hear from a representative of a government that has spent so much of the people's money on signs and ads reminding us how much of the same has been spent on their Economic Action Plan, and this week announced that they were hitting the dreaded "reset button" on a troubled fighter-jet purchase.

In the meantime, it remains an open question just how passengers will be paying for their LRT trips — whether the Presto system will finally prove up to the job this spring as hoped or whether we'll be scrambling to find a replacement in time for the 2018 LRT opening.

In his 2012 annual report, released last week, Ontario auditor general Jim McCarter had bad news about Presto and the people's money. The original 10-year, $250-million contract that provincial transit authority Metrolinx signed in 2006 with Accenture to develop Presto, he noted, has mutated repeatedly.

"By the time it is fully developed," McCarter wrote, "Presto will be among the more expensive fare-card systems in the world, and more than $700 million may have been paid to the contractor for developing it."

Metrolinx doesn't dispute the figure, but expects to recover $275 million of that from satisfied customers in Ottawa, Toronto and environs. Satisfaction, however, remains elusive.

The reviews are mixed among transit services in the 905, where uptake of the system has been slower than expected. Among the complaints is that Presto might be pricing transit out of reach of its poorest riders.

"Several of these agencies indicated to us that a good portion of their ridership (nearly a third in some regions and municipalities) are considered low-income and either cannot afford to load the minimum $10 currently required by the Presto card or do not have bank accounts or credit cards and therefore cannot load the cards online," reported the auditor general.

At the time of the report's writing, Presto was still scheduled to launch here in February, after having missed its July rollout (originally, 2010 was to be Ottawa's year of tap-and-go functionality). Now we're thinking April.

The city, vexed and embarrassed by the delays, assures that we're being compensated for their cost, and that we still have the option to walk away with no strings attached in April if there's another flop.

But the province made $32.5 million in transit funding for 2010-2011 from gas taxes contingent on buying into Presto. Even if Ottawa pulls out and is reimbursed every wasted penny, we shouldn't be surprised if that funding deal gets revisited.

Other cost-recovery guarantees were built into the contract between Metrolinx and Accenture. But as the auditor general's report points out, even though Presto failed to meet a third of its 22 performance standards in 2011, Metrolinx didn't impose any of the allowed penalties.

If Metrolinx hopes to recover $275 million of the people's money (provincial) from the people's money (municipal), they could at least hold Accenture to its contract in the meantime.

How much is the doggie made of chains?

NIRIT LEVAV PACKER/REX FEATURES

Recycled animal art

Bicycle chains get upcycled into art

An artist has created a series of incredibly detailed life-size dog sculptures made entirely from bicycle parts.

Israeli-born Nirit Levav Packer's collection includes a full-size greyhound, cocker spaniels and other mutts constructed from recycled bike chains, gears, pedals and even bike seats. **METRO**

Element of surprise

Metal mutts are not as tough as they look

At the beginning, Packer was pleasantly surprised that her creations weren't as fierce and hard as the chains of metal imply.

"The first dog I made was a Rottweiler, thinking that the rough edges of the broken metal pieces would loan to the dog's tough persona," she said. "But instead I was surprised to have created a sculpture that was more friendly and cute than intimidating." **METRO**

Emotional representation

Innermost thoughts shown through dog

In describing her artwork, Packer defines it as, "excitement, curiosity and fun."

"For me, this art is a reflection of my own emotions," Packer said.

"It's a representation of my thoughts from inside out. I love to weld metal, and these chains are not heavy; (they're) surprisingly soft and flexible. Out of all the materials I use — keys, nails, watches — metal is my favourite." **METRO**

Artist's viewpoint

"The biggest challenge for me in this art is to capture the expressions that a real dog would typically make. Thankfully, this type of metal is very flexible."

Nirit Levav Packer, 49, of Tel Aviv

Metropolitan Panel

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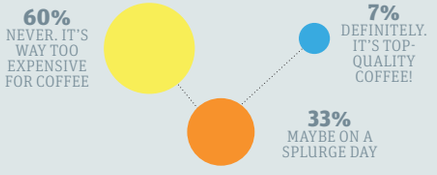

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@tgrevatt: Drive carefully #ottawa the roads are poor. 417 a mess, cars are spinning out w-bound uphill before Eagleson. Distinct lack of salt trucks.

@DeaSnydz: RT @DSCress: Absolutely amazing to be a part of #ToyMountain yesterday to see incredible generosity in #Ottawa giving kids a special Christmas morning

@Nik_Benoit89: @BlueJays Romero, Buerhle, Johnson, Morrow and possibly Dickey = best starting rotation of the MLB

@TrendsOttawa: Hudson's Bay, @thehudsonsbayco is now trending in #Ottawa http://t.co/IuC5aDC6

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Leslie Mann stars in This is 40, a movie directed by her husband, Judd Apatow. HANDOUT

Keeping it all in the family

This is 40. Leslie Mann talks about working with her children on movies directed by her husband and what middle age is like

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

Leslie Mann has made quite the career in husband Judd Apatow's movies, playing characters not too different from herself in Knocked Up, Funny People and now This is 40. In fact, much of the squabbling between Mann's Debbie and Paul Rudd's Pete in This is 40 was cultivated at home, making the film a kind of marriage counselling for the parents of two.

"It's like what I would fantasize about saying to Judd," Mann explains. "Like Debbie can say these things to Pete, but Leslie can't really say these things to Judd. It's fun to have this character to live through."

The film also gives Mann another chance to act alongside daughters Maude and Iris. (Like in Knocked Up, Mann and Apatow's real-life daughters co-star as Mann's character's kids.) But there can be trouble when her older daughter tries to take her work home with her, Mann admits.

"It's fun for Maude because we don't allow her to curse at home. I know she does at school," she says. "So it was fun for her to be able to do that at work, which I didn't think was a great idea, but Judd thinks is funny. So that's fun for her. But then she gets home from work and she tries to say the F-word or whatever and we have to shut her down."

Even with Apatow's brand of bold, uncomfortable comedy, Mann says she's game for anything. Of course, she had to draw the line somewhere, but that point has nothing to do with humorous or embarrassing situations.

"The only thing that made me feel uncomfortable in this movie is a scene with Iris when I'm laying in bed with her because it felt a little invasive," Mann admits. "I don't know why, because I can do anything else, but that for some reason felt a little like it was crossing some boundary. Just because everyone was sitting there watching me with my little girl doing what I do with my little girl, and I didn't like that."

As for life after 40, the actress — who hit the milestone herself last March — has found it to be a mixed bag.

"I think every day is different. Some days I feel fine and other days I feel like crying all day," she says. "I have lunches with my girlfriends who just turned 40, and some of those lunches we're crying and screaming about our husbands and saying we want to leave them and run away, and then other lunches we're fine and love our husbands and are happy with our lives."

One thing is for sure, though: A sequel about turning 50 would likely be darker.

"I keep asking women who are a little bit older when is this going to pass, and they're like, 'It doesn't pass. It just gets worse,'" Mann says.

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Motive actress' disarming' role

STEPHEN ERAMO
scene@metronews.ca

She recently portrayed Gwen Eaton, a campaign adviser with a bone to pick with her secret lover in the critically lauded murder mystery The Killing. Now, Vancouver-born actress Kristin Lehman is taking on the lead role in CTV's new police procedural drama Motive.

Described as "feisty, sexy and disarming," her character of Angie Flynn is a divorced single mom and homicide detective who investigates cases that are told from the perspective of the killer as well as victim. This particular job came along at the ideal time for Lehman.

"I was very lucky to have done The Killing, and when we wrapped last April, I wanted to do more equally creatively satisfying work," notes the actress. "I also wanted to stay in Vancouver, largely because my little boy is in pre-school here and we really built our family's life around being in town for the series.

"So when I heard that Motive was a CTV show I was really excited about the possibility of doing another Canadian series. Then I read the material and fell in love with it. So I auditioned and, like every audition, I was convinced it wasn't what they [the producers] wanted," she jokes, "but happily it was what they wanted and here I am."

Despite being very different from her character, the actress felt an immediate bond with Angie.

"It's just an absolute delight to step into her shoes," says Lehman. "Angie 'lives' in me quite naturally, and thanks to our writers I get to delve into the complexities of what it must be like to have such a difficult job as well as be impulsive, instinctive, say what you feel and make mistakes."

At the time of this interview, Lehman and the rest of the Motive cast and crew were slightly over halfway through filming the show's first season.

"Aidan Devine guest-stars in this episode and he is an acting powerhouse," praises the actress. "I suppose I'm enjoying this one, in particular, because Angie has a really strong connection with the main protagonist. She decides to go against her superiors' wishes and follow her own hunches, so Aidan and I have gone toe-to-toe with some pretty intense and heavy scenes.

"At the end of the day you feel proud of all the effort you've put in as well as having worked opposite and shared a lot of mutual respect with another actor who processes the same way you do."

Kristin Lehman is taking on the lead role in Motive. HANDOUT

Putting The Impossible into perspective

Naomi Watts. Her latest film on the 2004 South Pacific tsunami left the actress waterlogged and deeply impressed

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

Naomi Watts stars in The Impossible, a film about the 2004 South Pacific tsunami. JOSE HARO/SUMMIT ENTERTAINMENT

Naomi Watts has spent a lot of time getting to know Maria Belon, and her esteem for the Spanish woman has in no way diminished. Belon and her family survived the 2004 South Pacific tsunami and went on to inspire Watts' new film, The Impossible. (The family has been recast as British for the movie.)

"I was blown away by her," Watts remembers. "Having gone through this experience together and knowing what she went through, you want to hold onto everything she feels and says because you know how close she came. There's something now about her that makes her just understand life better and it's just deeply impressive. I'm full of self-doubt and second-guessing and cynicism. That's another type of human being."

Self-doubt aside, Watts could at least relate to Belon as one mother to another.

"I'm not thinking about a tsunami on a daily basis," Watts admits. "I have fears about getting separated from my children just on the subway, you know? You laugh, but I've gone through in my head, 'What would I do?' It's happened on an elevator before. And then you're like, is your child going to know where to get off? Luckily it's only ever happened in our building, so it's OK. They know the number five. But if it's the subway and you haven't had a conversation about it ... You know, I've actually tried to have the conversation, but it's just too confusing for them."

Filming the harrowing and hazardous scenes taking place in the immediate aftermath of the tsunami was no picnic for the actress, but she's not one to complain, always remembering to keep things in perspective. Watts remembers one particular scene where she clings to a tree as water rushes past.

"I was there for a long time, but I was anchored with a harness. Still, with the pressure of the water coming, you still had to hang on tight," she says. "But you just kept reminding yourself, I'm not going to complain. I'm an actor recreating this. There were people who hung onto trees for 10, 12 hours."

Still, that doesn't mean the waterlogged sequence was a walk in the park.

"Physically, it's the most demanding thing I've ever done. Working with water is always going to be tough. I mean, it was five or six weeks in those tanks," she says.

But Tom Holland, who plays her eldest son in the film, seemed to enjoy himself, at least.

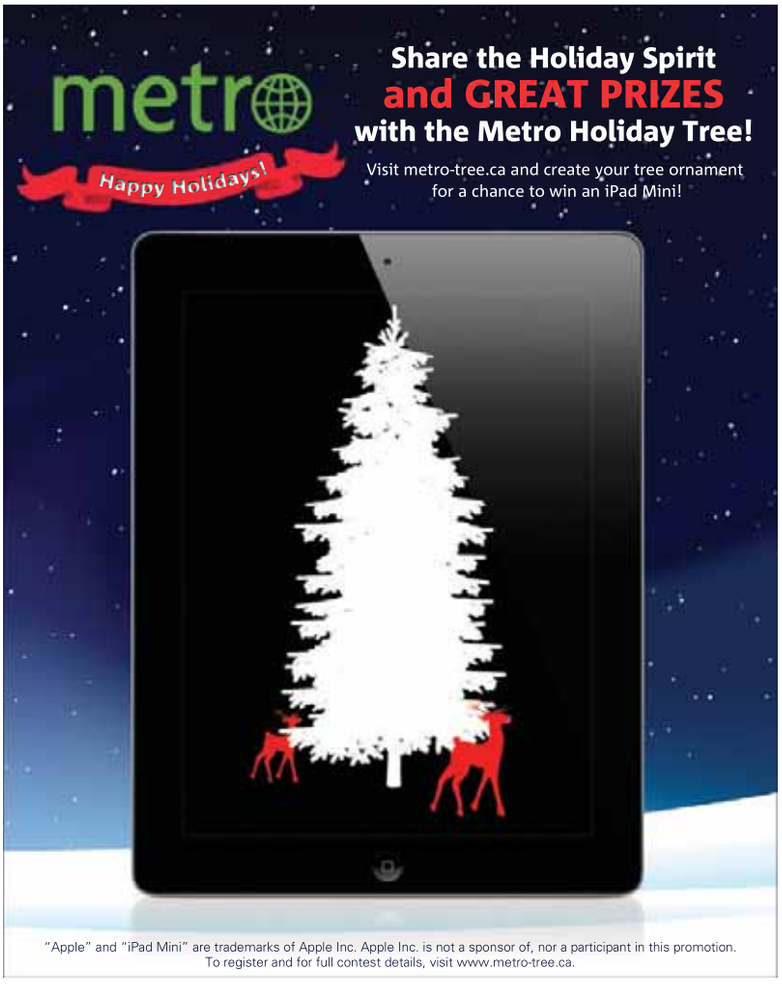
"Tom thought it was the most fun he's ever had," Watts says.

"It was like the water park every day, but the scariest possible one. But he's not only a trained athlete but he's 14, and I'm neither of those things."

Taking on the critics

Maria Belon is sick of the critics.

- **Quote.** The filmmakers behind The Impossible have come under fire for telling the story of the 2004 tsunami through the eyes of European tourists. But Maria Belon, the Spanish woman upon whom the story is based, has had enough. "I am fed up with the criticisms of it being in English, a British family," Belon says. "I can't understand why people don't understand what the movie is about."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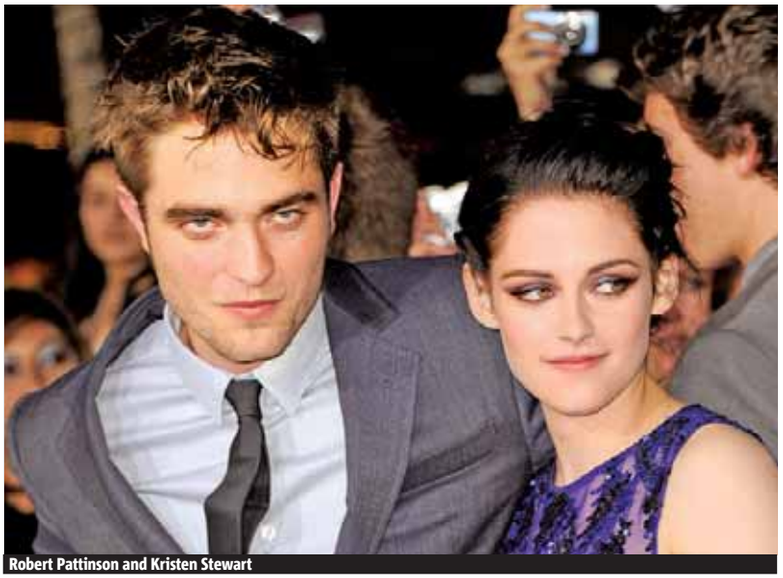


Robert Pattinson and Kristen Stewart

No awkward U.K. Christmas ahead as Stewart and Pattinson opt for L.A.

Robert Pattinson and Kristen Stewart will reportedly be spending the holidays together in Los Angeles, ditching an earlier plan to visit Pattinson's family in the U.K. for Christmas, according to E! News. It appears the earlier plan would've led to no small amount of awkwardness, as the Pattinson clan is reportedly still cross with Stewart over her summer cheating scandal. But the reconciled lovers are said to be in such a hurry to celebrate the holidays together that Stewart left the premiere party for On the Road in New York early to get back to California.

"The couple will spend Christmas and New Year's together until he leaves on Jan. 8 to start filming his next project," a source says.

Russell Crowe ALL IMAGES GETTY

Crowe vows to 'bring family back together'

Russell Crowe is taking Page Six to task over reports that he's dating Katie Lee, ex-wife of Billy Joel, while he's separated from his own wife, Danielle Spencer.

"These latest reports are false and cruel," Crowe — who is currently filming A Winter's Tale in NYC and promoting Les Miserables — posted to Twitter.

"As soon as I finish this job and can get home, my priority is to try to bring my family back together."

Hugh Grant

Jon Stewart dubs Grant worst Daily Show guest

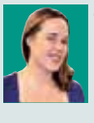
Jon Stewart recently revealed that Hugh Grant was the worst guest he'd ever had on The Daily Show and he would "never" be invited back, saying at the Montclair Film Festival last week that Grant was "giving everyone s— the whole time. He's a big pain in the ass." Well, Grant got the message, posting to Twitter, "Turns out my inner crab got the better of me with TV producer in '09. Unforgivable. J. Stewart correct to give me kicking."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

L.A. Reid will not be back for X Factor's third season



THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Considering Demi Lovato and Simon Cowell's contentious behaviour and crazy-side-eyes on this season of The X Factor, it comes as some surprise that it's L.A. Reid who is the first casualty on the judge's panel. The stylishly-dressed music executive will not be coming back next season for the reality TV show.

"I have the utmost respect for Simon Cowell," Reid said Thursday in a statement. Reid claims he is going back to his job of running the Epic music label. "He is the very best, and I have had the opportunity to learn so much from him. Working with him on X Factor has been a once-in-a-lifetime experience. I'm honoured to have sat on the panel with such incredible talent. Of course, I will miss the show," Reid added. "In my opinion, Simon attracts the best talent, but I'm looking forward to getting back to my core business and the responsibility of running Epic Records."

Season 3 already has the go-ahead by Fox, but there's still no word on if Cowell's co-judges — Demi Lovato and Britney Spears — will be back.

2012 METRO CHOICE AWARDS

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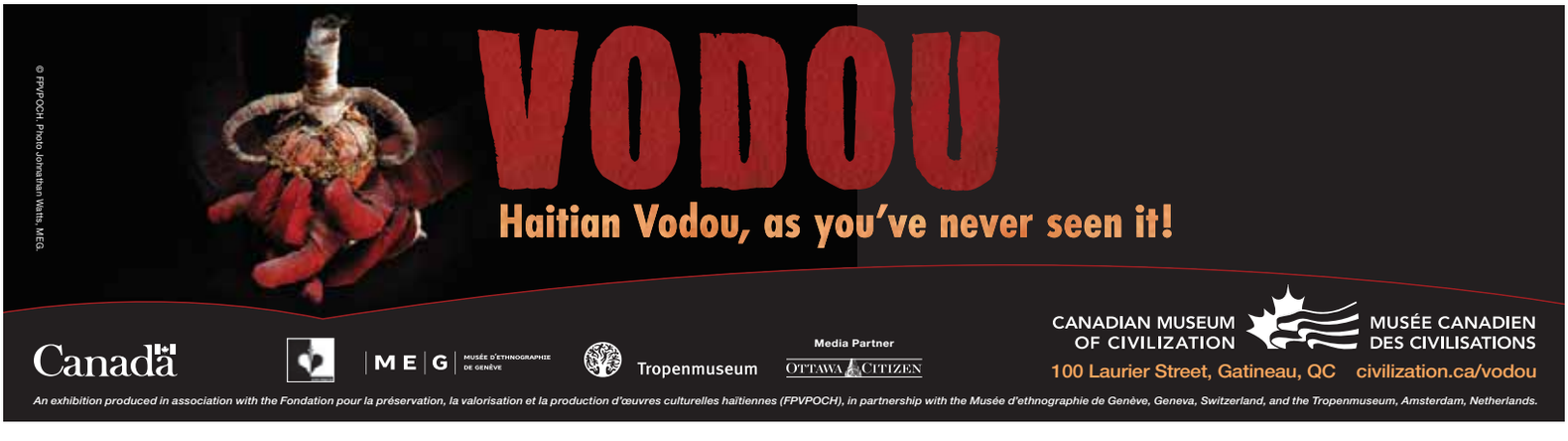
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Piccolo Grande
Stella Luna

Bagel
Kettleman's Bagel Co.
Ottawa Bagel Shop and Deli
Tim Hortons

Wings
Wild Wing
St. Louis Bar & Grill
Local Heroes Sports Bar & Grill

Sandwich / Deli
DiRienzo's Grocery & Deli
La Bottega Nicastro
Subway

Poutine
Smoke's Poutinerie
Elgin St. Diner
Spud's Potato Bar & Poutinerie

Pizza
Gabriel Pizza
Colonnade Pizza
Louis' Restaurant and Pizza

Dessert
Oh So Good Desserts & Coffee House
Memories Restaurant
BeaverTails

Burger
The Works
Chez Lucien
Five Guys

Fish & Chips
Cat's Fish and Chips
Lapointe Fish
The Glen Scottish Restaurant and Pub

Local Brewery
Mills Street Brew Pub
Beau's All Natural Brewing Co.
Kichesippi Beer Co.

Caterer
Thyme and Again
Epicuria Fine Food Store and Catering
Gourmet to Go

Butcher
Sasloves Meat Market
The Butchery
Aubrey's Meats

Patio
Cornerstone Bar & Grill
Heart and Crown Irish Pubs
Hard Rock Café

Chip Wagon
M & G's (Bank & Sunnyside)
S & G's (Maitland & Carling)
Fritomania (St. Joseph, Orleans)

Caribbean
Caribbean Sizzler
Bananas Caribbean Grill
Groovy's Roti Hut

Chinese
Yangtze Dining Lounge
Golden Palace
Hing Lung

French
Le Cordon Bleu
Métropolitain Brasserie
Restaurant 18

Greek
Greek On Wheels
Pilos Restaurant
Jimmy The Greek

Indian
Haveli Indian Restaurant
Light of India
Coconut Lagoon

Italian
Vittoria Trattoria
Mamma Teresa Ristorante
Giovanni's Restaurant

Japanese
Japanese Village Restaurant
Festival Japan Restaurant
Sushi Kan

Korean
Korean Palace
Le Kim Chi
Alirang

Mexican
Ahora Mexican Cuisine
Lone Star Texas Grill
Mexicali Rosa's

Middle Eastern
Shawarma Palace
Shawarma King
Really Lebanese

Thai
Green Papaya
Khao Thai
Talay Thai

Vietnamese
Pho Bo Ga La
Saigon Pho
New Mee Fung

Steakhouse
Al's Steakhouse
Big Easy's
The Keg Steakhouse and Bar

Diner
Elgin St. Diner
Zak's Diner
Dunn's Famous Deli

Bakery
Art-Is-In Bakery
Rideau Bakery
Boko Bakery

Vegetarian / Vegan
The Green Door Restaurant
The Table Restaurant
ZenKitchen

Take-Out
Cat's Fish and Chips
Greek On Wheels
Gabriel Pizza

Farmers Market
Ottawa Parkdale Market
ByWard Market
Ottawa Farmer's Market at Brewer Park

Romantic Restaurant
Play Food & Wine
Flying Piggy's Bistro
Bâton Rouge

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Scotiabank Place
Blacksheep Inn

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Mercury Lounge
Social Restaurant and Lounge
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Pub
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Shanghai Restaurant
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Local Art Gallery
National Gallery of Canada
Cube Gallery
Wall Space Ottawa Art Gallery

Museum
Canadian Museum of Civilization
Canadian Museum of Nature
Canada Science and Technology Museum

Bowling Alley
Merivale Bowling Centre
MacArthur Lanes
Walkley Bowling Centre

Local Musical Artist / Band
The PepTides
Philly Moves
MonkeyJunk

Local DJ / Electronic Group
A Tribe Called Red

Arkells playing at the River Stage of the RBC Royal Bank Bluesfest, winner of Ottawa's favourite festival. STEVE GERECKE

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CHOSEN BY METRO READERS

Sonia Mirchandani gives Erica Noordermeer a purple "Ombre" at Sublime Hair Studio, winner of the Ottawa's favourite Beauty / Hair Salon. DEREK HILLE

Employees Melanie and Andrea are always ready to help you pick out the perfect outfit. Roadtrip Clothing won for both favourite Women's Clothing Store and Men's Clothing Store. MOLLY TRUSTFUND

Fresh Beat DJs
DJ BZRK

Concert of 2012
Justin Beiber
Madonna
Bon Iver at Ottawa Folk Festival

Festival
RBC Royal Bank Bluesfest
Ottawa Folk Festival
Ottawa Jazz Festival

Live Theatre Production
Beauty and the Beast
Footloose
Wicked

Book of 2012
50 Shades of Grey - E. L. James
The Hunger Games - Suzanne Collins
Steve Jobs: A Biography - Walter Isaacson

Movie of 2012
Skyfall
The Dark Knight Rises
Argo

YOUR OTTAWA

Local Scandal
Mambo Nuevo Latino scandal
Sink Hole
Presto Smart Card (OC Transpo)

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CHEO
Ottawa Humane Society
The Ottawa Food Bank

City Councilor
David Chernushenko
Diane Holmes
Stephen Blais

Neighbourhood
Centretown
Glebe
Westboro

Park
Strathcona Park
Gatineau Park
Andrew Hayden Park

Gym
GoodLife Fitness
The Athletic Club
RA Centre

Yoga Studio
Rama Lotus
Moksha Yoga Ottawa
Upward Dog

Tattoos / Piercing
Planet Ink
New Moon
Ink Spot

Wireless Provider
Rogers Wireless
Bell Mobility
Mobilicity

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CTV Ottawa CJOH
Rogers TV
CBC Ottawa

Local Radio Station
Hot 89.9
Live 88.5
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Local Blog
Apartment 613
Ottawa Rickshaw's
Ottawa Foodies

Hotel
Fairmount Château Laurier
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Fresh Air Experience
Pecco's

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Roadtrip Clothing Store
Forever 21
Trust Fund

Men's Clothing Store
Roadtrip Clothing Store
Moores' Clothing for Men
Mark's Work Warehouse

Vintage Clothing Store
Ragtime Vintage Clothing
Young Janes Vintage Boutique
Value Village

Shoe Store
Town Shoes
Aldo
The Shoe Company

Jewellery Store
Magpie
Peoples
La Masion D'Or

Beauty / Hair Salon
Sublime Hair Studio
Rinaldo
Scissor Hair Studios

Spa
Le Nordik
Holtz Spa
York Street Spa

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How they won

- The winners of the fourth annual Metro Choice Awards were chosen in an online vote by readers and members of Club Metro, home of all our weekly promotions and contests, with 4,000 members in Ottawa and 50,000 across Canada.
- Those who voted for their local favourites also qualified to win prizes.
- To join Club Metro for free, go to metronews.ca and look for the Club Metro logo at the top of the page.

Mario and Claudio come to DiRienzo's three times a week for Ottawa's Best Sandwich. CONNIE PFITZER/FOR METRO

Best Museum winner Canadian Museum of Civilization. MARC DESROSIERS/FOR METRO

Best Local Musical Group winner The PepTides. JONATHAN HOBIN

A Tribe Called Red, winner of the favourite Local DJ / Electronic group. PAT BOLDUC

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Family

We all have baggage

IT'S ALL RELATIVE
Kathy Buckworth,
kathybuckworth.com

As more airlines impose fees for checked bags, travellers are looking for ways to stuff their carry-on bags full and into overflowing overhead bins. But are you really getting something for free?

The disadvantages to checking a bag is (sometimes) the financial cost, wait times at the baggage carousel or having the bag delayed or lost.

But with a carry-on, downsides include jumping up to wait in line and get on the plane early to secure a bin, (within at least a few rows of your seat) and then hefting a huge bag over your (and others') heads or having to ask

for help to do so.

You're also limited to only 100 millilitres of any liquid (this includes alcohol). Not to mention the jammed in, wrinkled clothes, not having just the right shoes and pulling the suitcase through miles of airport.

And the time you saved? Your checked in pals used it to read an extra chapter, have another glass or visit the washroom in the airport, prior to boarding. Just make sure you consider the real cost, carefully. KATHY BUCKWORTH IS AN AWARD WINNING WRITER. VISIT KATHYBUCKWORTH.COM OR FOLLOW KATHY ON TWITTER @KATHYBUCKWORTH

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All Mommy wants for Christmas this year is a photo of you with Santa in which you're not crying hysterically. Follow along with the comedic (mis)adventures of mommyhood with Reasons Mommy Drinks online at metronews.ca/voices

Of wish lists, undesirable gifts and handling high expectations

Holiday demands. Christmas is a time of year when it's important to manage your kids' high hopes

MARY SHELL
Metro World News in New York

Your children may have wish lists a mile long, but Denise Schipani, author of Mean Moms Rule: Why Doing the Hard Stuff Now Creates Good Kids Later, says that when it comes to gifts, more stuff under the Christmas tree isn't necessarily more satisfying.

"The holidays can be sensory overload for adults. It can be that way for your child, too," she says.

Feeling overwhelmed at your children's overwhelming holiday demands? It's up to you to manage their expectations. They can't temper themselves in the throes of the holidays.

"My kids still believe in Santa Claus, and they make their lists," she says. But Schipani makes sure her kids understand these are wish lists and not just a rundown of what they'll get. Choosing one thing from the list allows you to surprise your child, she says. "There's a way for them to feel excited about getting stuff without getting greedy about it."

You won't be a Grinch if your child doesn't get everything they desire — not everybody gets everything they want.

"And when your kids ask for something that's too extravagant, Schipani points to a chapter in her book titled: Say 'No.' Smile. Don't Apologize. Repeat as Necessary.

"It's not damaging to say, 'No,'" she reminds.

On the big day, tune in to your kid's experience and how he or she is reacting to unwrapping the gifts. If there's a tantrum or you see your child's eyes glaze over, take note.

"The reason they're doing that might well be that you've overwhelmed them," she says.

And it's equally important to notice when you see your child stop and really engage with a toy. It means you've given your child something he or she really enjoys — a gift that's probably sufficient on its own.

Finally, remember to set a good example for your kids and take opportunities throughout the year to remind them of the great things they already have.

Avoid cultivating a "more is better" attitude, she notes. "Model the behaviour that you want to see."

Your relatives

When you can't control the grandparents...

- **Meaningful gifts.** "There are relatives that are not going to listen, no matter what," Schipani says. But try having a conversation with family members before the holidays. Tell them to consider whether gifts are age-appropriate or whether a combination of quality time and a meaningful gift might be better for your child than an iPod or Xbox."

Pay attention to your kids' reactions as they open gifts. ISTOCK

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Meatballs and Cranberry Marinara get the party started

This recipe makes 50 meatballs. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

- 3 eggs, beaten
- 1/4 cup finely chopped cilantro
- 1 tbsp finely chopped jalapeno slices
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tsp fennel seeds
- 2 tsp dried oregano
- 1 tsp onion powder
- 1/2 tsp red pepper flakes
- Kosher salt and ground black pepper
- 3 lbs ground beef (93 per cent lean)
- 14-oz can whole berry cranberry sauce
- 15-oz can diced tomatoes
- Splash of hot sauce

1. Heat the oven to 425 F. Coat a rimmed baking sheet with cooking spray.

2. In a large bowl, combine the eggs, cilantro, jalapenos, garlic, fennel, oregano, onion powder, red pepper flakes, 2 teaspoons of salt and 1/2 teaspoon of pepper. Whisk until well combined. Add the ground beef, then mix gently until completely blended. Divide the mixture into 50 balls, using about 2 tablespoons of the mixture per ball. Arrange the meatballs on the prepared baking sheet.

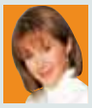
3. Place the baking sheet in the oven and bake the meatballs for 20 minutes. Increase heat to broil and cook for another 1 to 2 minutes, or until lightly browned.

4. Meanwhile, in a medium saucepan over medium heat, combine the cranberry sauce and diced tomatoes. Bring to a simmer. Season with salt and pepper, and a splash of hot sauce.

5. When meatballs are done, arrange on a platter, then spoon the cranberry mixture over them. Serve with toothpicks. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Healthy eating

Choose it and lose it


ROSE REISMAN
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What better snack to reach for than popcorn when watching those classic Christmas movies? Just watch those popcorn toppings.

Kernel's double-butter popcorn (9 cups)

1,380 calories / 42 g fat / 1,800 mg sodium
Double anything usually indicates a red flag. The butter really increases the calories and fat.

Equivalent

Nine cups of Kernel's double-butter poporn is equal in fat to 16 Rice Krispie Squares.

Kernel's butter salt popcorn (9 cups)

409 calories / 21 g fat / 352 mg sodium
The butter salt refers more to seasoning than butter amount as reflected in the calories and fat. Sodium is excellent by comparison.

Onion, Bacon & Cheddar Bites. Delectable appy

Ingredients

- 425 ml (1 3/4 cups) all-purpose flour
- 10 ml (2 tsp) baking powder
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) each salt and pepper
- 2 eggs
- 250 ml (1 cup) whole milk
- 4 slices bacon, cooked and crumbled
- 1 sweet red pepper, finely chopped
- 250 ml (1 cup) shredded cheddar cheese
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) minced red onion

Topping

- 50 ml (1/4 cup) sour cream
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) hot sauce
- Minced fresh parsley and chopped sweet red pepper

1. In bowl, whisk flour, baking powder, salt and pepper. In a large bowl, whisk eggs until frothy; whisk in milk. Fold in flour mix, stirring to combine. Fold in bacon, red pepper, cheese and onion.

2. Spoon a heaping 15 ml (1 tbsp) into well-greased mini-muffin cups. Bake in 230 C (450 F) oven until golden and puffed, about 15 minutes. Let cool on rack.

3. Topping: In bowl, mix sour cream and hot sauce. Spoon about 2 ml (1/2 tsp) topping onto each bite. Sprinkle with parsley and red pepper.

4. Cut each in half diagonally and arrange on platter. Serve with small bowl of sweet red chili sauce for dipping. THE CANADIAN PRESS/ FOODLAND ONTARIO

Impress your guests with rich and creamy Crab Quiche Bites

This recipe makes 30 Quiche Bites. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

When it comes to food, "recooked" isn't generally a term met with much affection. The dairy world, however, gives us a fine exception in ricotta cheese.

Ricotta — Italian for recooked — isn't exactly a stranger to most North Americans, who tend to love it in lasagna. But as cheeses go, its versatility is vastly underappreciated.

Ricotta got its name because it is made literally by recooking the liquid left over from making other cheese, often mozzarella. This is possible because when mozzarella or other cheeses are made, most, but not all, of the protein is removed from the liquid.

That leftover protein can be recooked and coagulated using a different, acid-based process. The result is a soft, granular cheese with a texture somewhere between yogurt and cottage cheese. The taste is mild, milky, salty and slightly acidic.

And that acid is key. When cheese is formed using acid, the proteins become heat resistant. In other words, the cheese doesn't melt. It heats wonderfully, but doesn't reduce to a pool of goo.

Ingredients

- Two 1.9-oz packages frozen mini phyllo dough cups (15 cups per package)
- 1/2 cup part-skim ricotta cheese
- 2 eggs
- 1/4 tsp garlic powder
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp ground black pepper
- 1/2 cup crab meat, finely chopped
- Grated Parmesan cheese

1. Heat the oven to 400 F. Arrange the phyllo cups on a rimmed baking sheet.

2. In a blender, combine the ricotta, eggs, garlic powder, salt and pepper. Blend until very smooth. Stir the crab meat into the egg mixture.

3. Carefully spoon a bit of the mixture into each phyllo cup, filling each about three-quarters full.

4. Sprinkle a bit of Parmesan over each cup, then bake for 15 to 20 minutes, or until the filling is set and starting to brown.

5. The quiche bites can be served hot, room temperature or chilled.

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Tolkien literature to the next level

J.R.R.101. University's hefty collection of author's materials attracting students fascinated by fantastic works

The vast collection of J.R.R. Tolkien manuscripts initially sold senior Joe Kirchoff on Marquette University, so when the school offered its first course devoted exclusively to the English author, Kirchoff wanted in. The only problem: It was full and he wasn't on the literature track.

Undaunted, the 22-year-old political science and history major lobbied the English department and others starting last spring and through the summer and "kind of just made myself a problem," he said. His persistence paid off.

"It's a fantastic course," said Kirchoff, a Chicago native. "It's a great way to look at something that's such a creative work of genius in such a way you really come to understand the man behind it."

He and the 31 other students can now boast of their authority about the author, who influenced much of today's high fantasy writing. The course was taught for the first time this fall as part of the university's celebration of the 75th anniversary of The Hobbit being published. And class wrapped up just before the film, The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey, was released Friday.

The class, which filled up fast with mostly seniors who had first dibs, looked at Tolkien as a whole, not just the popular Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit. Students took their final exam this week, and the course was so well received, Marquette is considering more in the future.

Marquette University professor Tim Machan teaches a class on J.R.R. Tolkien that focuses on all of his books, books that influenced Tolkien and other tidbits about the writer. CARRIE ANTLFINGER / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"It's the best class I've had in 27 years here ... for student preparation, interest and enthusiasm," said English professor Tim Machan. "And I can throw out any topic and they will have read the material and they want to talk about the material."

Though Tolkien classes aren't unusual nationwide, Marquette students had the added bonus of being able to visit Tolkien's revisions, notes, detailed calendars, maps and watercolours on site at the school's archive. And they got a lesson from the school's archivist Bill Fliss.

"One of the things we wanted to impress upon the students was the fact that Tolkien was a fanatical reviser," Fliss said. "He never really did anything once and was finished with it."

No naps in these lecture halls

"It's the best class I've had in 27 years here ... for student preparation, interest and enthusiasm. And I can throw out any topic and they will have read the material and they want to talk about the material."

Tim Machan
English professor

Chrissy Wabiszewski, a senior English major, described Tolkien's manuscripts as art. "When you get down and look at just his script and his artwork in general, it all kind of flows together in this really beautiful, like, cumulative form," Wabiszewski said. "It's cool. It is just really cool to have it here."

The class also looked at Tolkien's poetry, academic articles and translations of medieval poems; talked about the importance of his writers' group, the Inklings; and explored what it meant to be a writer at that time.

"We've ... tried to think about continuities that ran through everything he did," Machan said. His students were also required to go to three lectures that were part of Marquette's commemoration.

The Hobbit, a tale of homebody Bilbo Baggins' journey, is set in Tolkien's fictional realm of Middle-earth and takes place 60 years before The Lord of the Rings. The movie released Friday is the first of the trilogy. The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug is expected to be released on Dec. 13, 2013, and a third film will come out in the summer of 2014.

Most of the students were just finishing elementary school when the first Lord of the Rings film was released 11 years ago.

Kirchoff said he started reading The Hobbit and the Lord of the Rings when he was in fourth grade, before the movies came out. He said the movies have introduced others to Tolkien's ideas, making his love for Tolkien's fantasy worlds more socially acceptable. "The movies were fantastic enough and engaging enough to coexist in my mind with the literature I really do love," he said.

Wabiszewski said it's clear her classmates weren't just taking the class as a filler.

"I definitely expected the enthusiasm from everybody, but just the knowledge that everybody brought into the class, it's cool," she said. "We really have a smart group of people in that class who have a lot to offer."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lord of the reads

History of a creative collection

Marquette University is one of the main repositories of Tolkien's drafts, drawings and other writings — more than 11,000 pages.

- It has the manuscripts for The Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit, as well as his lesser-known Farmer Giles of Ham and his children's book Mr. Bliss. Marquette was the first institution to ask Tolkien for the manuscripts in 1956 and paid him about $5,000.
- The university acquired the manuscripts after it hired William Ready in 1956 to build its literary collection. Ready, who became interested in Tolkien after reading The Hobbit, in turn hired Bertram Rota, a London rare book dealer, to serve as the agent for Marquette.
- Rota wrote to Tolkien and asked for his original manuscripts. Tolkien happened to be worried about his retirement finances and agreed to the sale. Tolkien died in 1973.

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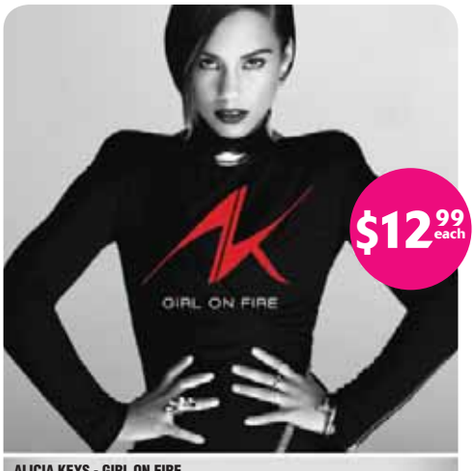

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The In-Credibility Factor

Name: Sarah Prevette
City: Toronto
Age: 30
Occupation: Founder and CEO of Sprouter

THE IN-CREDIBILITY FACTOR
Teresa Kruze
life@metronews.ca

Sarah Prevette has been hailed as one of the top entrepreneurs in North America. With her work profiled in the Wall Street Journal and Forbes magazine, Prevette is credited with assisting more than 100,000 start-ups around the world through her online company. Sprouter was acquired by the Post Media Network in 2011, but she still runs the company and has started a new venture called BetaKit that is focused on identifying emerging technology trends for Fortune 500 companies.

I knew I was on my way when ... someone came up to me and told me how Sprouter had affected their life. It was profoundly moving to have someone give credit to something you had built as a reason for their success. The incredible feedback from the community continues to be a motivating factor for all of us. I hope I can look back one day and say I acted on my ambitions and that I left the world a better place.

Leaving a legacy

"I hope I can look back one day and say I acted on my ambitions and that I left the world a better place."
Sarah Prevette
Founder and CEO of Sprouter

Action Plan

Don't isolate yourself
Get out early, get feedback and talk to your potential market.

Adjust your course
Iterate based on feedback from your potential market and understand it's a continuous evolution of your business.

Fall in love with the problem, not the solution.
Be focused on the core issue you are trying to solve. You can always change the solution. Don't get caught up in features and functionality.

Sarah Prevette. PROVIDED

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When it comes to successful studying, give yourself a hand

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What do fingers and hands have to do with how well studied material can be recalled?

According to research, the physical act of holding a pen and writing something out by hand stimulates critical activity in specific areas of the brain.

In a recent study, one group learned the alphabet by writing the letters out by hand.

The other group read solely off computers. The group who wrote out the letters by hand had better recall and scored better on tests.

According to Dr. Nick Whitehead, the CEO and founder of Oxford Learning, these studies prove what educators have long known about studying and remembering,

The pen is mightiest

"There are many different ways to approach the process of studying, but one of the best-known has always been to create study notes using pen and paper."
Dr. Nick Whitehead
CEO and founder of Oxford Learning

"There are many different ways to approach the process of studying, but one of the best-known has always been to create study notes using pen and paper," he said.

It may seem an old-fashioned practice given the abundance of personal technology that students have at their fingertips, but the act of physically writing creates a motor memory in the brain that improves recall.

Not only do study notes help students organize the material, but the act of holding the pen and writing notes makes the study process active rather than passive.

NEWS CANADA

Duly noted

How to create study notes

- Grab a pen and paper
- Read over all in-class or textbook notes.
- Write down subject headings, subheadings, and bolded or key words.
- Focus on writing down the ideas or concepts that are the most challenging, or that are the most difficult to remember.

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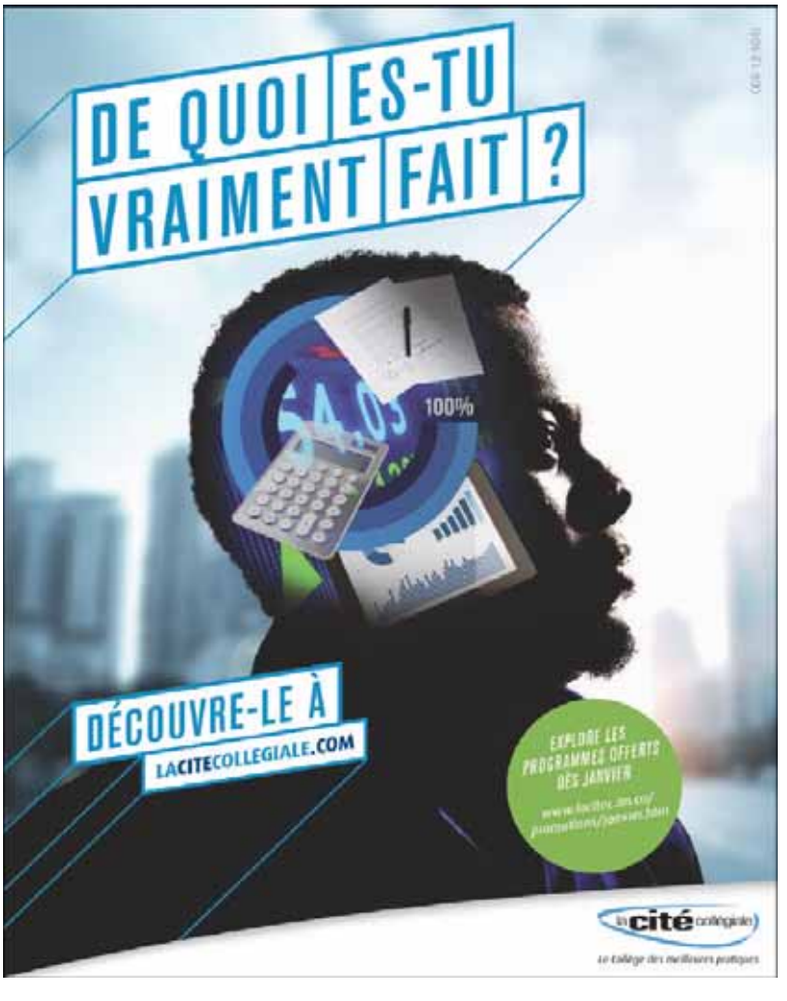

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HOLIDAY 2012
gift guide

Holiday gifts to get him in gear

K2 Rictor Ski With Marker MX 12.0 Binding, $948.98, available at Sport Chek, sportchek.ca.

Batman Hockey Tape, $9.99, available at Canadian Tire, canadiantire.ca.

Burton Process Flying V snowboard, $499.99, available at Sport Chek, sportchek.ca.

Filzer I — Tool Grande, $15.75, available at Mountain Equipment Co-op, mec.ca.

Under Armour Hockey Compression Grippy Long Sleeve Top, $69.99, available at Sport Chek, sportchek.ca.

Garmin Forerunner 210 with Heart Rate Monitor, $245, available at Mountain Equipment Co-op, mec.ca.

Smith I/O Sol-X Goggles, $189.99, available at Sport Chek, sportchek.ca.

Nike+SportWatch GPS, powered by TomTom, $169, available at TomTom, tomtom.com.

Drylocker Hockey Bag With Fan, $129.99, available at Canadian Tire, canadiantire.ca.

Tackla Shift 251 QuikBlade Hockey Skates, Senior, $119.99, available at Canadian Tire, canadiantire.ca.

Reebok 16K Pump Skates, $399.99, available at Sport Chek, sportchek.ca.

Polar RCX5 GPS, $529.99, available at Sport Chek, sportchek.ca.

Easton Hockey Stick, $219.99, available at Canadian Tire, canadiantire.ca.

Warrior Bentley X Grip Composite Stick, $69.99, available at Sport Chek, sportchek.ca.

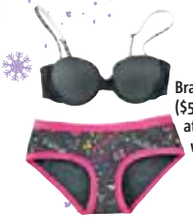
Bauer Nexus 1000 Griptac Composite Stick, $299.99, available at Sport Chek, sportchek.ca.

8 shopping days left

On the naughty list

Ruffle Mesh Baby Doll, $29.95, available at La Vie En Rose, lavieenrose.com.

Naughty Santa Bustier, $59.50, available at La Senza, lasenza.com.



Bra ($14) And Panty ($5) Set, available at Walmart, walmart.ca.

Mrs. Claus Halter Dress Set With Stockings $49.95, available at La Vie En Rose, lavieenrose.com.

Bra ($14) And Panty ($5) Set, available at Walmart, walmart.ca.

Sexy Mrs. Claus Set With Battery Powered Star lights, $59.95, available at La Vie En Rose, lavieenrose.com.

Red Charmeuse Cami With Black Lace, $45, left, Jersey Cami With Black Lace, $35, right, Black And White Charmeuse Boxer Shorts, $35, all available at Jacob, jacob.ca.

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Life Brand Premium Jelly Bean Dispenser, $16.99, available at Shoppers Drug Mart, shoppersdrugmart.ca.

Black Magic Box Of Chocolates, $5.99, available at all major Canadian retailers, nestle.ca.

Chocolate Toy Soldier In Mitten, $12.50, available at Indigo, chapters.indigo.ca.

Tinned Italian Cookies, $7.99, available at Homesense, homesense.ca.

Life Brand Premium Dark Chocolate Sea Salt Caramels, $9.99, available at Shoppers Drug Mart, shoppersdrugmart.ca.

PC Black Label Sangria Cocktail Mixer, $5.99. Also comes in Peach Bellini. Available where President's Choice products are sold, presidentschoice.ca.

Peppermint Grahams, $11.50, available at Indigo, chapters.indigo.ca.

NOTICED

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Recipe. All-In-One Spiced Chocolate Loaf

This Green & Black's Organic All-In-One Spiced Chocolate Loaf recipe will be a sure hit during the holidays.

Ingredients:

- 50 g dark (70 per cent cocoa solids) chocolate
- 100 g plain flour
- 125 g icing sugar
- 1 tsp ground mixed spice
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 175 g unsalted butter at room temperature, plus extra for greasing
- 4 medium free-range eggs
- 100 g dark chocolate with ginger

Instructions:

1 Preheat the oven to 180 C/350 F/gas mark 4, and butter a 22-centimetre loaf pan.

2 Melt the dark chocolate using double boiler method (placing a microwave or heatproof bowl over a pan of gently simmering water) ensuring the bowl doesn't touch the water. Set aside to cool.

3 Blend the flour, sugar, spices and baking powder. This can be achieved using a food processor or a hand-held electric mixer.

4 Add the butter, cooled melted chocolate and the eggs and blend until evenly combined. Pour the mixture into the loaf pan and bake for about 35 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the centre comes out clean. Carefully remove the loaf from the pan and cool on a wire rack.

Dark, milk or white chocolate would also complement this cake's flavours. CONTRIBUTED

5 Meanwhile, melt the ginger chocolate bar using the double boiler method and drizzle over the cooled cake. Makes one loaf.

Tip: You can also drizzle the loaf with other Green & Black's Organic chocolate. Dark, milk or white chocolate would also complement this cake's flavours.

RECIPE COMPLIMENTS OF GREEN & BLACK'S ORGANIC HOLIDAY 2012

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Lockout

NHLPA vote to dissolve union underway

A critical vote was set to begin Sunday that will determine if the NHL labour battle moves from the negotiating table to the courtroom.

The players are casting their ballots on whether or not to give their executive board the authority to dissolve the NHL Players' Association.

Doing so would allow the board to file a disclaimer of interest, which is a step toward disbanding the union and giving the players the chance to file anti-trust lawsuits against the league.

Two-thirds of the union's membership must vote in favour of the move over a five-day period that ends Thursday, then the union executive board must respond.

The league has already taken some pre-emptive action after it filed a class-action complaint on Friday that asked a federal court in New York to make a declaration on the legality of the lockout.

The NHL also filed an unfair-labour-practice charge with the U.S. National Labor Relations Board.

The union was quick to respond with a statement on Friday night that suggested the league was overstepping its bounds. At that point, it had yet to even be served with the lawsuit.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHLPA executive director Donald Fehr GETTY IMAGES

NBA. Raptors top Rockets for another win

The winning continues for the Toronto Raptors — for one game at least.

Jose Calderon had 18 points, 10 rebounds and 14 assists to lead the short-handed Raptors to a 103-96 victory over the Houston Rockets on Sunday, marking the first time Toronto has won consecutive games in eight long months.

Alan Anderson had 24 points, while DeMar DeRozan added 19 points for the Raptors (6-19), who hadn't won consecutive games since April 13. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Raptors point guard Jose Calderon had his second triple-double of the season — and of his career — on Sunday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto. Bills' game goes south as NFL heads north

Rookie Russell Wilson rushed for three TDs and threw for another while Earl Thomas returned an interception 57 yards for a touchdown as the Seattle Seahawks steamrolled past the Buffalo Bills 50-17 on Sunday at Rogers Centre in Toronto.

Seattle (9-5) earned its fifth win in six games and cemented its first winning season since going 10-6 in 2007. It also marked the second straight lopsided win for the Seahawks, who downed Arizona 58-0 last week. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson runs into the end zone on Sunday. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Broncos rumble to 9th straight win vs. Ravens

NFL. Denver gets win in Baltimore despite off game from QB Manning

The Denver Broncos no longer can be considered a notch below the best in the AFC, nor can they be viewed as a team that can succeed only when Peyton Manning puts up dazzling numbers.

Their 34-17 rout of the Baltimore Ravens on Sunday showed just how good these Broncos can be.

Chris Harris returned an interception 98 yards for a momentum-turning touchdown, and Denver cruised to its ninth straight victory in surprisingly easy fashion.

"You come to the Ravens' house and beat them handily, it's definitely a statement game," Harris said. "We definitely wanted to show to everybody that we're an elite team."

Manning threw for 204 yards and a score in his ninth consecutive win against Baltimore, the first with the Broncos (11-3).

But he was merely a role player in this one, because Denver's defence dominated the Ravens, who sputtered in their first game with Jim Caldwell as offensive co-ordinator.

This was supposed to be a test for Denver, which was eager to face a quality opponent on the road.

"Pat Bowlen has owned the team for 29 years and has averaged 10 wins a season, but it's the first time he's won in this building," Broncos coach John Fox said. "I was proud to see that for him."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

By the numbers

1

For three weeks, Baltimore has needed one win to clinch a fifth straight trip to the playoffs. The Ravens still lead the AFC North, but their lead over the Cincinnati Bengals has shrunk to one game with two to play.

Broncos defensive end Derek Wolfe tackles Ravens quarterback Joe Flacco on Sunday in Baltimore. GAIL BURTON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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4 SPORTS

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	18	5	.783	—
Miami	15	6	.714	2
Atlanta	14	7	.667	3
Chicago	13	9	.591	4½
Brooklyn	13	10	.565	5
Milwaukee	12	10	.545	5½
Indiana	13	11	.542	5½
Boston	12	11	.522	6
Philadelphia	12	12	.500	6½
Orlando	10	13	.435	8
Charlotte	7	16	.304	11
Detroit	7	19	.269	12½
Toronto	**6**	**19**	**.240**	**13**
Cleveland	5	20	.200	14
Washington	3	18	.143	14

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oklahoma City	19	4	.826	—
San Antonio	19	6	.760	1
L.A. Clippers	17	6	.739	2
Memphis	15	6	.714	3
Golden State	16	8	.667	3½
Minnesota	12	9	.571	6
Utah	13	12	.520	7
Denver	13	12	.520	7
Houston	11	12	.478	8
Dallas	11	13	.458	8½
Portland	10	12	.455	8½
L.A. Lakers	11	14	.440	9
Phoenix	9	15	.375	10½
Sacramento	7	16	.304	12
New Orleans	5	17	.227	13½

Division leaders ranked in top three positions and best eight teams qualify for playoffs

Sunday's results
Toronto 103 Houston 96
L.A. Lakers 111 Philadelphia 98
Denver 122 Sacramento 97
New Orleans at Portland
Saturday's results
Golden State 115 Atlanta 93
New York 103 Cleveland 102
Indiana 88 Detroit 77
Miami 102 Washington 72
Orlando 107 Charlotte 98
Chicago 83 Brooklyn 82
Minnesota 114 Dallas 106 OT
L.A. Clippers 111 Milwaukee 85
San Antonio 103 Boston 88
Memphis 99 Utah 86
Monday's games — All Times Eastern
Minnesota at Orlando, 7 p.m.
Houston at New York, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Chicago at Memphis, 8 p.m.
San Antonio at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
Sacramento at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Tuesday's games
Toronto at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at Washington, 7 p.m.
Utah at Brooklyn, 7:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Boston at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Indiana at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
Philadelphia at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Denver, 9 p.m.
Charlotte at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.
New Orleans at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.
Wednesday, December 19
Utah at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Detroit at **Toronto**, 7 p.m.
Brooklyn at New York, 7 p.m.
Washington at Orlando, 7 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Cleveland at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Houston, 8 p.m.
Charlotte at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Milwaukee at Memphis, 9:30 p.m.
Golden State at Sacramento, 10 p.m.
New Orleans at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

RAPTORS 103, ROCKETS 96

HOUSTON (96)
Harden 7-18 14-15 28, Morris 6-11 5-6 19, Parsons 4-11 3-5 12, Delfino 4-11 0-0 10, Smith 4-7 0-0 8, Asik 3-7 1-4 7, Lin 3-9 0-0 7, Douglas 1-3 2-2 5, Jones 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 32-78 25-32 96.
TORONTO (103)
Anderson 6-12 9-9 24, DeRozan 8-19 2-2 19, Calderon 6-12 5-6 18, Davis 6-9 1-1 13, Ross 4-10 0-2 9, Johnson 4-6 0-0 8, Lucas 2-6 0-0 6, Kleiza 1-6 0-0 2, Pietrus 1-3 0-0 2, Valanciunas 1-2 0-0 2. Totals 39-85 17-20 103.

Houston	**28**	**21**	**22**	**25 — 96**
Toronto	**26**	**23**	**28**	**26 —103**

3-Point Goals—Houston 7-23 (Delfino 2-7, Morris 2-4, Parsons 1-4, Harden 0-3, Douglas 1-2, Lin 1-2, Jones 0-1). Toronto 8-30 (Anderson 3-7, Calderon 1-5, Ross 1-5, Lucas 2-4, Kleiza 0-4, DeRozan 1-3, Pietrus 0-2). **Rebounds**—Houston 44 (Asik 13, Smith 7, Parsons 6, Morris 6, Delfino 4, Harden 4, Douglas 2, Lin 1, Jones 1). Toronto 43 (Calderon 10, Johnson 8, DeRozan 7, Davis 6, Kleiza 3, Pietrus 3, Valanciunas 2, Anderson 2, Ross 2, Lucas 1). **Assists**—Houston 14 (Harden 4). Toronto 29 (Calderon 14). **Total Fouls**—Houston 19, Toronto 24.
Attendance—17,863 at Toronto. T—2:27

NBA LEADERS

SCORING AVERAGE

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Bryant, LAL	24	234	184	704	29.3
Anthony, NYK	20	190	126	557	27.9
Durant, Okl	23	202	192	632	27.5
James, Mia	21	210	85	533	25.4
Harden, Hou	21	156	167	521	24.8
Aldridge, Por	21	176	89	441	21.0
Westbrook, Okl	23	170	103	478	20.8
Mayo, Dal	24	172	80	490	20.4
Curry, GoS	24	162	85	473	19.7
Pierce, Bos	23	145	125	454	19.7
Wade, Mia	18	134	78	350	19.4
Lee, GoS	24	192	77	461	19.2
Parker, SA	23	176	81	442	19.2
Gay, Mem	21	152	70	398	19.0
Ellis, Mil	22	153	97	419	19.0
Lillard, Por	22	144	79	416	18.9
Holiday, Phi	22	162	58	404	18.4
Griffin, LAC	23	173	71	418	18.2
Howard, LAL	24	155	126	437	18.2
Anderson, NO	22	153	22	401	18.2
Walker, Cha	23	151	90	416	18.1
Bosh, Mia	21	139	99	381	18.1
DeRozan, Tor	**24**	**164**	**91**	**431**	**18.0**
Deng, Chi	22	149	75	392	17.8
Randolph, Mem	21	149	71	369	17.6
West, Ind	24	175	72	422	17.6
Jefferson, Uta	24	179	58	418	17.4
Duncan, SA	24	164	85	415	17.3
Williams, Bro	23	130	91	391	17.0
Jennings, Mil	22	139	52	371	16.9
Johnson, Bro	23	149	46	387	16.8
Cousins, Sac	19	125	69	320	16.8
Crawford, LAC	23	125	89	382	16.6
Smith, Atl	20	138	42	331	16.6
George, Ind	24	145	50	394	16.4
Horford, Atl	20	145	36	326	16.3
Felton, NYK	23	150	34	375	16.3
Afflalo, Orl	23	143	56	372	16.2
Matthews, Por	20	111	56	322	16.1
Batum, Por	21	113	60	336	16.0
Bargnani, Tor	**21**	**127**	**53**	**337**	**16.0**
Paul, LAC	23	127	92	369	16.0
Martin, Okl	23	109	98	367	16.0
Davis, Orl	23	147	66	360	15.7
Garnett, Bos	23	149	64	362	15.7
Parsons, Hou	21	121	42	330	15.7
Thompson, GoS	24	141	34	377	15.7

Not including last night's games

AHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OTL	SOL	GF	GA	Pt
Portland	27	15	10	1	1	82	83	32
Providence	25	14	9	0	2	61	69	30
Worcester	26	13	10	1	2	72	78	29
Manchester	27	12	11	2	2	75	70	28
St. John's	28	13	14	0	1	66	77	27

NORTHEAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OTL	SOL	GF	GA	Pt
Springfield	25	15	5	2	3	87	58	35
Bridgeport	26	12	11	1	2	79	87	27
Albany	23	9	8	0	6	55	61	24
Connecticut	26	11	13	2	0	74	88	24
Adirondack	25	10	14	1	0	61	75	21

EAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OTL	SOL	GF	GA	Pt
Syracuse	26	17	6	1	2	95	70	37
Binghamton	22	14	6	1	1	70	53	30
W-B/Scranton	25	13	10	1	1	69	68	28
Hershey	27	13	12	1	1	73	75	28
Norfolk	24	11	12	1	0	69	74	23

WESTERN CONFERENCE

NORTH DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OTL	SOL	GF	GA	Pt
Abbotsford	26	15	5	3	3	66	52	36
Toronto	25	15	9	0	1	85	68	31
Rochester	24	12	9	2	1	82	76	27
Lake Erie	27	12	13	1	1	82	88	26
Hamilton	24	10	12	1	1	55	76	22

MIDWEST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OTL	SOL	GF	GA	Pt
Grand Rapids	24	13	9	1	1	74	70	28
Rockford	27	13	12	1	1	88	86	28
Chicago	24	12	9	2	1	65	71	27
Milwaukee	26	12	11	2	1	73	79	27
Peoria	26	11	11	2	2	63	83	26

SOUTH

	GP	W	L	OTL	SOL	GF	GA	Pt
Charlotte	28	17	9	0	2	90	74	36
Houston	26	14	8	1	3	82	73	32
Texas	25	13	8	2	2	62	65	30
Oklahoma City	26	13	9	1	3	86	78	30
San Antonio	28	10	15	0	3	71	87	23

Note: Two points awarded for a win, one for an overtime or shootout loss.
Sunday's results
Springfield 3 Manchester 2 (SO)
Portland 3 Worcester 2
Toronto 5 Grand Rapids 0
St. John's 4 Providence 0
Charlotte 2 San Antonio 1
Milwaukee 4 Hamilton 3
Houston 4 Oklahoma City 3 (SO)
Saturday's results
Charlotte 3 Houston 0
Manchester 3 Adirondack 2
Providence 2 Albany 1 (SO)
Portland 1 Connecticut 0
Worcester 4 Hershey 3 (SO)
Toronto 4 Rochester 3 (SO)
Norfolk 3 Bridgeport 2 (SO)
St. John's 3 Springfield 2 (OT)
Chicago 3 Lake Erie 2
Syracuse 4 W-B/Scranton 0
Oklahoma City 5 San Antonio 3
Hamilton 6 Rockford 4
Peoria 3 Milwaukee 1
Abbotsford 2 Texas 1 (SO)
Tuesday's game — All Times Eastern
Hamilton at Peoria, 8:05 p.m.
Wednesday's games
Abbotsford at Chicago, 12 p.m.
St. John's at Adirondack, 7 p.m.
Springfield at Portland, 7 p.m.
Norfolk at Hershey, 7 p.m.
Albany at Bridgeport, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Lake Erie, 7 p.m.
Rochester at Grand Rapids, 7 p.m.
W-B/Scranton at Binghamton, 7:05 p.m.
Rockford at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
San Antonio at Texas, 8:30 p.m.

GOLF

PGA

ALFRED DUNHILL CHAMPIONSHIP

At Malelane, South Africa
Par 72
Final Round

Charl Schwartzel, South Africa	67-64-64-70—265
Gregory Bourdy, France	66-65-74-70—275
Kristoffer Broberg, Sweden	70-69-67-70—276
Scott Jamieson, Scotland	70-68-71-68—277
Garth Mulroy, South Africa	71-68-70-68—277
Andy Sullivan, England	73-71-64-69—277
Richard Sterne, South Africa	70-68-70-70—278
Keith Horne, South Africa	70-69-68-71—278
Steve Webster, England	67-69-70-72—278
George Coetzee, South Africa	71-70-73-65—279
Richard Bland, England	67-73-71-68—279
David Howell, England	70-73-70-67—280
T. van Aswegen, South Africa	70-68-71-71—280
Branden Grace, South Africa	68-71-67-74—280
Richard McEvoy, England	69-70-74-68—281

PNC FATHER-SON CHALLENGE

At Orlando, Fla.
Par 72
Final Round

Davis Love III/Dru Love, $200,000	60-61-121
Larry/Josh Nelson, $80,000	62-60—122
Vijay/Qass Singh, $57,000	62-61—123
David Duval/Nick Karavites, $49,500	63-61—124
Mark/Shaun O'Meara, $49,500	61-63—124
Fuzzy/Gretchen Zoeller, $47,000	65-60—125
Jack/Gary Nicklaus, $47,000	62-63—125
Fred/Taylor Funk, $47,000	61-64—125
Hale/Steve Irwin, $45,000	62-64—126
Bernhard/Christina Langer, $44,000	62-65—127
Lee/Connor Janzen, $43,500	63-65—128
Steve/Sam Elkington, $42,750	66-63—129
Raymond/Robert Floyd, $42,750	64-65—129
Lanny/Tucker Wadkins, $41,750	66-65—131
Sandy/James Lyle, $41,750	66-65—131
Nick/Matthew Faldo, $41,000	63-69—132
Lee/Daniel Trevino, $40,500	69-65—134
Arnold Palmer/Will Wears, $40,000	80-76—156

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

At Coolum, Australia
Par 72
Final Round

Daniel Popovic, Australia	64-70-69-69—272
Rod Pampling, Australia	71-67-69-69—276
Anthony Brown, Australia	73-68-64-71—276
Geoff Ogilvy, Australia	67-69-72-69—277
Brad Kennedy, Australia	69-68-70-70—277
Richard Green, Australia	71-68-70-69—278
Nathan Green, Australia	72-71-66-69—278
Marc Leishman, Australia	69-70-73-67—279
Steven Bowditch, Australia	70-67-74-68—279
Darren Clarke, Northern Ireland	70-69-72-68—279
John Senden, Australia	73-69-69-68—279
James Nitties, Australia	70-72-68-69—279
Michael Wright, Australia	70-73-66-70—279
Stephen Dartnall, Australia	68-72-68-71—279
Mathew Goggin, Australia	71-66-70-72—279
Matthew Griffin, Australia	69-67-70-73—279
Adam Crawford, Australia	70-71-70-69—280
Jason Kang, United States	70-69-71-70—280
Matthew Millar, Australia	73-66-70-71—280
Brendan Jones, Australia	73-67-67-73—280
Peter O'Malley, Australia	73-68-71-69—281
Greg Chalmers, Australia	72-69-68-72—281
Kim Do-hoon, South Korea	73-71-68-70—282
Terry Pilkadaris, Australia	70-74-69-69—282
Jason Scrivener, Australia	68-75-69-70—282
Kurt Barnes, Australia	74-65-71-72—282
Leigh McKechnie, Australia	70-69-72-72—283
Zhang Xinjun, China	67-67-74-75—283
Peter Senior, Australia	68-70-68-77—283
Stephen Leaney, Australia	69-70-71-74—284
Robert Allenby, Australia	73-67-68-76—284
Aaron Townsend, Australia	69-74-72-70—285

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

EAST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-New England	10	3	0	.769	472	274
N.Y. Jets	6	7	0	.462	245	306
Miami	6	8	0	.429	264	279
Buffalo	5	9	0	.357	306	402

SOUTH

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Houston	12	2	0	.857	394	280
Indianapolis	9	5	0	.643	309	358
Tennessee	4	9	0	.308	271	386
Jacksonville	2	12	0	.143	219	383

NORTH

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Baltimore	9	5	0	.643	348	307
Cincinnati	8	6	0	.571	355	293
Pittsburgh	7	7	0	.500	302	291
Cleveland	5	9	0	.357	280	310

WEST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Denver	11	3	0	.786	409	274
San Diego	5	9	0	.357	299	312
Oakland	4	10	0	.286	263	402
Kansas City	2	12	0	.143	195	367

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

EAST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Washington	8	6	0	.571	381	350
Dallas	8	6	0	.571	327	338
N.Y. Giants	8	6	0	.571	373	304
Philadelphia	4	10	0	.286	253	375

SOUTH

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Atlanta	12	2	0	.857	371	259
New Orleans	6	8	0	.429	389	379
Tampa Bay	6	8	0	.429	354	349
Carolina	5	9	0	.357	296	319

NORTH

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Green Bay	10	4	0	.714	344	292
Minnesota	8	6	0	.571	319	308
Chicago	8	6	0	.571	321	240
Detroit	4	10	0	.286	330	380

WEST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
San Francisco	9	3	1	.731	316	184
Seattle	9	5	0	.643	350	219
St. Louis	6	7	1	.464	258	315
Arizona	5	9	0	.357	224	302

x — clinched playoff berth; **y** — clinched division.

WEEK 15

Sunday's results
Washington 38 Cleveland 21
Miami 24 Jacksonville 3
Denver 34 Baltimore 17
Atlanta 34 N.Y. Giants 0
Minnesota 36 St. Louis 22
Houston 29 Indianapolis 17
Green Bay 21 Chicago 13
New Orleans 41 Tampa Bay 0
Seattle 50 Buffalo 17
Carolina 31 San Diego 7
Arizona 38 Detroit 10
Dallas 27 Pittsburgh 24
Oakland 15 Kansas City 0
San Francisco at New England
Monday, December 17 — All Times Eastern
N.Y. Jets at Tennessee, 8:30 p.m.

SOCCER

ENGLAND

PREMIER LEAGUE
Tottenham Hotspur 1 Swansea City 0
West Bromwich Albion 0 West Ham United 0

FRANCE

LIGUE 1
Nancy 1 Bordeaux 1
Lorient 2 Saint-Etienne 0
Paris Saint-Germain 1 Lyon 0

GERMANY

BUNDESLIGA
Borussia Dortmund 3 Hoffenheim 1
Werder Bremen 1 Nuremberg 1

ITALY

SERIE A
Fiorentina 4 Siena 1
AC Milan 4 Pescara 1
Catania 3 Sampdoria 1
Chievo 1 Roma 0
Genoa 1 Torino 1
Juventus 3 Atalanta 0
Parma 4 Cagliari 1
Bologna 3 Napoli 2

SPAIN

LA LIGA
Levante 1 Zaragoza 0
Rayo Vallecano 1 Valencia 0
Real Madrid 2 Espanyol 2
Barcelona 4 Atletico Madrid 1

FIFA CLUB WORLD CUP

At Yokohama, Japan
FIRST PLACE
Corinthians (Brazil) 1 Chelsea (England) 0
THIRD PLACE
Monterrey (Mexico) 2 Al Ahly (Egypt) 0

TRANSACTIONS

NBA

HOUSTON ROCKETS — Recalled F Terrence Jones from Rio Grande Valley (NBADL).

NFL

CINCINNATI BENGALS — Placed FB Chris Pressley on injured reserve. Signed FB John Conner.
JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS — Released WR Kevin Elliott. Signed G Austin Pasztor from the practice squad and WR Jerrell Jackson to the practice squad.
PHILADELPHIA EAGLES — Released T Mike Gibson.
TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS — Signed G Hayworth Hicks to the practice squad.

AHL

SPRINGFIELD FALCONS — Signed D Chris Reed to a professional tryout agreement.

SOCCER

U.S. SOCCER FEDERATION — Announced the new women's professional league will be called the National Women's Soccer League.

COLLEGE

MICHIGAN — Suspended CB J.T. Floyd, P Will Hagerup and LB Brandin Hawthorne for the Outback Bowl.

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Thinking about what might have been is a complete waste of time. You will always get the chance to do things in the future that make up for what you did, or did not do, in the past. Why worry?

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
You are in a can-do mood at the moment and that's good because the planets indicate that if you make an effort, the results will be spectacular. Jupiter in the money area of your chart could make you a fortune!

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Anything is possible if you want it enough — yes, anything. Identify what it is you most want to accomplish then just go for it, and ignore those who say you are being irresponsible. What do they know? Nothing!

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
If there is something you wanted to finish but for one reason or another failed to see through to the end, don't worry, you'll get another chance. Is it the last chance? Maybe not, but do you want to risk it?

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
You can sense that if you want to make changes to your lifestyle you are going to have to make them soon. You have spent enough time thinking and planning, now you must act. It's now or never.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Don't think about what you intend to do. Just do it and let the situation unfold according to its own momentum. The year is too old to make detailed plans. Just take each day, and moment, as it comes.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Try not to tie yourself down to tasks and chores that can be done at any time. Jupiter in your fellow Air sign of Gemini urges you to be adventurous today. Go some place you have never been to before.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 2 04 - Nov. 22
It might be wise not to get too involved in something your friends are clearly enthused about. Don't worry that you might be missing out. On the contrary, you're making time for more important things.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
It may be a bit too easy to lose your sense of perspective today as mind planet Mercury opposes Jupiter in your opposite sign. Something will annoy you for sure but you don't have to take it seriously.

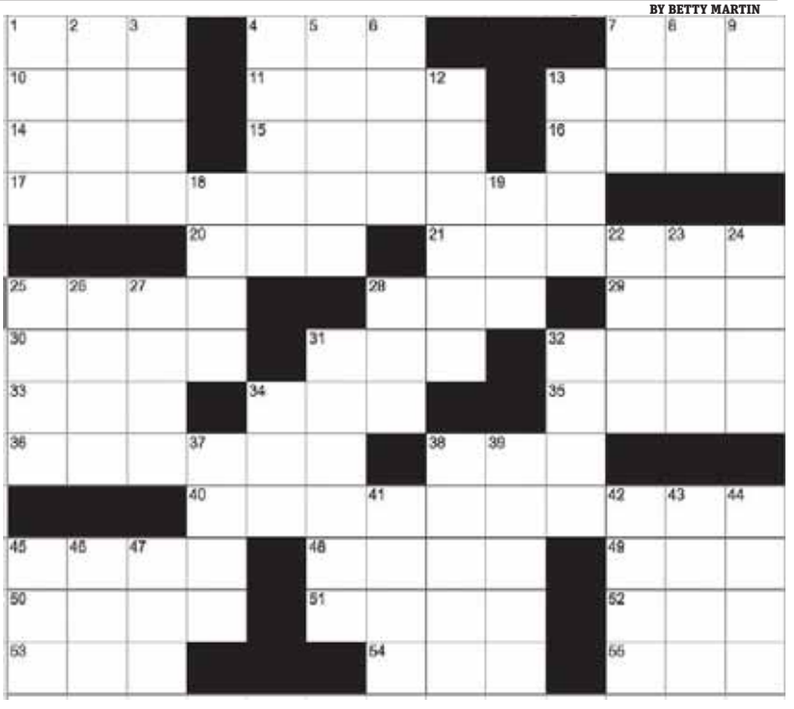
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You should be promoting yourself for all you are worth, not only because you are worth more than your rivals but because you have something valuable to offer. Leave your mark on the world and make it a big one.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You won't lack for courage or confidence today but you must make sure they are well directed. This is the perfect time to take a creative endeavour to a higher level. Believe you can do it and you'll find a way.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
If you have promised to do something for a loved one then you must do it — immediately. Yes, of course, you did not realize that other factors would come into play but that's irrelevant. Promises must be kept. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword

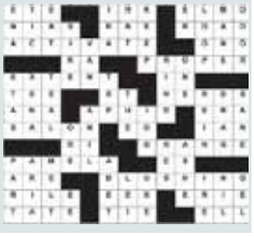
BY BETTY MARTIN



Across
1. Droop in the middle
4. Vacation spot
7. School org.
10. Airport listing
11. Fake fanfare
13. Gait
14. Follower (suffix)
15. Strong handsome horse
16. "Panic —"
17. On the up and up
20. Matter, in law
21. Aftershock
25. Take from the top
28. L.A. Law actress Susan —
29. Gardner of Hollywood
30. Zing
31. Nickname for comedian Bill
32. Shut the door forcefully
33. Founded (abbr.)
34. Touch lightly
35. Jazz great Fitzgerald
36. Front runner
38. Dutch city
40. Give a hand to
45. Group
48. Dublin's land
49. The Naked Truth actress Leoni
50. — of Green Gables
51. Squeal
52. Flub
53. To soak
54. Snake sound
55. Unruly crowd

Down
1. Leave port
2. Comic actor Johnson
3. "Little Miss Sunshine" actor Kinnear
4. Aver
5. French capital
6. Sandler or Baldwin
7. In favour of
8. — Close for Comfort
9. Banking machine (abbr.)
12. Wanes
13. "A — Grows in Brooklyn"
18. Take the creases out
19. Attempt
22. Shopping mecca
23. Racetrack shape
24. Hindu deity
25. Rod accompaniment
26. Threat ending
27. Computer input
28. Speck
31. Kind of beetle
32. Grain
34. Vigor
37. Title for Judi Dench
38. Noblemen
39. Some showdowns
41. Perjures
42. Discussion point
43. Roman Emperor
44. Clothing
45. Road surface
46. Compass bearing (abbr.)
47. Picnic pest

Friday's Crossword



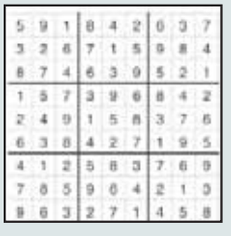
What's online

See today's answers metronews.ca/answers.

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Friday's Sudoku



6			5	1	3			2
					2	7		
	1	2	4			6		
1	8		7		9	3		4
2								9
7		3	8		4		5	6
		5			7	9	6	
		1	2					
8			3	9	5			1

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12 Tribeca AWD
- Loaded, A/C, Auto
- st: 34459
- km: 9731

$32,840
$247*** Bi-weekly

08 Santa Fe GLS AWD
- Loaded, A/C, Auto
- st: 34319
- km: 91721

$13,940
$146* Bi-weekly

10 Toyota RAV4 4WD
- Loaded, A/C, Auto
- st: 34484
- km: 40240

$20,860
$157*** Bi-weekly

10 Patriot Sport 4WD
- Loaded, A/C, Auto
- st: 34562
- km: 89787

$13,640
$109*** Bi-weekly

12 Ford F-150 XLT 4WD
- Flex Fuel, Loaded, A/C
- st: 34597
- km: 20274

$27,850
$210*** Bi-weekly

09 Acura MDX AWD
- Loaded, A/C, Roof, Lthr, Auto
- st: 34435
- km: 38157

$29,870
$256** Bi-weekly

11 Honda CR-V LX 4WD
- Loaded, A/C, Auto
- st: 34357
- km: 14374

$22,850
$172*** Bi-weekly

08 Sportage LX 4WD
- Loaded, A/C, Auto
- st: 34307
- km: 98209

$10,870
$114* Bi-weekly

11 Benz C250 AWD
- 4Matic, Loaded, Lthr, Roof
- st: 34463
- km: 40030

$29,970
$226*** Bi-weekly

09 Vibe AWD
- A/C, Auto
- st: 12228-A
- km: 95884

$10,780
$97** Bi-weekly

11 Benz E350 AWD
- 4Matic, NAV, Loaded, Lthr, Roo
- st: 33877
- km: 14374

$58,850
$443*** Bi-weekly

08 Sierra 1500 4WD
- Loaded, A/C, Auto
- st: 33210
- km: 52992

$23,980
$241* Bi-weekly

11 Gr. Vitara 4WD
- Loaded, A/C, Auto
- st: 33669
- km: 58018

$16,950
$135*** Bi-weekly

08 Ford Edge SEL AWD
- Loaded, A/C, Auto
- st: 34136
- km: 79226

$16,880
$177* Bi-weekly

12 Colorado 4WD
- Loaded, A/C, Auto
- st: 34139
- km: 17835

$27,850
$210*** Bi-weekly

09 Murano SL AWD
- Loaded, Auto
- st: 34469
- km: 86683

$18,970
$171** Bi-weekly

11 Outback AWD
- Premium, Loaded, A/C, Auto
- st: 34241
- km: 60592

$24,850
$187*** Bi-weekly

12 Venza XLE AWD
- Loaded, A/C, Lthr
- st: 34455
- km: 9147

$29,970
$226*** Bi-weekly

08 Infiniti EX35 AWD
- Loaded, A/C, Lthr, Roof
- st: 33822
- km: 105315

$18,880
$198* Bi-weekly

11 Pathfinder 4WD
- Loaded, A/C, Auto
- st: 34314
- km: 41002

$25,980
$196*** Bi-weekly

09 Impreza AWD
- Loaded, A/C, Auto
- st: 34447
- km: 89932

$12,950
$117** Bi-weekly

11 Outlander 4WD
- Loaded, A/C, Auto
- st: 33520
- km: 32780

$21,850
$164*** Bi-weekly

11 Tundra LTD 4WD
- iForce, Loaded, A/C, Lthr
- st: 34456
- km: 61155

$37,880
$285*** Bi-weekly

10 Forester AWD
- Loaded, A/C, Auto
- st: 33139
- km: 62998

$21,980
$165*** Bi-weekly

11 Yukon 4WD
- Loaded, A/C
- st: 32939
- km: 44543

$28,500
$214*** Bi-weekly

09 Accord LX
- Loaded, A/C, Auto
- st: 33975
- km: 69018

$15,880
$143** Bi-weekly

08 Benz C230 AWD
- 4Matic, Loaded, Lthr, Roof
- st: 34149
- km: 43035

$25,980
$261* Bi-weekly

11 Ram 1500 4WD
- HEMI, Loaded, A/C, Auto
- st: 34428
- km: 44586

$25,980
$196*** Bi-weekly

08 LandRover LR2 4WD
- HSE, Loaded, Roof, Lthr
- st: 33076
- km: 75201

$22,890
$230* Bi-weekly

07 LandRover LR3 4WD
- V8HSE, NAV, Roof, Lthr
- st: 33567
- km: 56440

$26,870
$270* Bi-weekly

09 Liberty Sport 4WD
- Trail Rated, Loaded, A/C,
- st: 34488
- km: 67938

$14,980
$135** Bi-weekly

12 Ridgeline RTL 4WD
- NAV, Camera Roof, Lthr
- st: 34515
- km: 14164

$36,840
$277*** Bi-weekly

12 Surburban 1500 4WD
- Loaded, A/C
- st: 33709
- km: 27634

$35,830
$270*** Bi-weekly

08 Mazda CX-7 AWD
- Loaded, A/C
- st: 34059
- km: 64801

$15,650
$164* Bi-weekly

11 Traverse LS AWD
- Loaded, A/C
- st: 34390
- km: 48949

$23,890
$180*** Bi-weekly

09 Mazda B4000 AWD
- A/C
- st: 34527
- km: 60233

$14,470
$131** Bi-weekly

08 Compass AWD
- Loaded, A/C, Auto
- st: 34537
- km: 90551

$11,860
$124* Bi-weekly

09 Pilot 4WD
- Loaded, A/C
- st: 34239
- km: 62480

$24,950
$214** Bi-weekly

10 Ranger Sport 4WD
- A/C
- st: 34504
- km: 37173

$16,870
$135*** Bi-weekly

11 Escalade EXT AWD
- NAV, Loaded, Roof, Lthr
- st: 34213
- km: 20748

$64,820
$488*** Bi-weekly

08 BMW X3 AWD
- Loaded, A/C, Roof, Lthr, Auto
- st: 33285
- km: 51156

$28,650
$288* Bi-weekly

12 Escape LTD 4WD
- Loaded, A/C, Roof, Lthr, Auto
- st: 34294
- km: 44920

$24,980
$188*** Bi-weekly

10 Equinox LS AWD
- Loaded, A/C
- st: 33050
- km: 63009

$17,950
$143*** Bi-weekly

12 Volvo XC70 AWD
- Loaded, A/C, Lthr, Auto
- st: 34310
- km: 29220

$34,860
$262*** Bi-weekly

11 Durango AWD
- Loaded, A/C
- st: 33712
- km: 24686

$29,830
$224*** Bi-weekly

09 Benz E300 4WD
- 4Matic, NAV, Loaded, Lthr, Roof
- st: 33686
- km: 46356

$31,840
$273** Bi-weekly

08 Lincoln MKZ AWD
- Loaded, A/C, Roof, Lthr
- st: 33632
- km: 98400

$15,950
$167* Bi-weekly

08 Fusion SEL AWD
- V6, Loaded, A/C
- st: 33092
- km: 98331

$11,940
$125* Bi-weekly

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